

BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XVI NO. 23 JUNE 5, 1986

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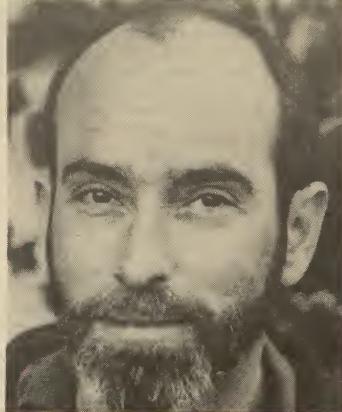
United Way Hit On AIDS Neglect

Out of \$44 Million Raised, \$500,000 Goes to Gay Services

by Charles Linebarger

A group of lesbian and gay activists, all United Way volunteers, are charging that the Bay Area's largest charity is ignoring the AIDS health crisis. The accusation was made at a May 29 meeting between gay leaders and the executive director and staff of United Way.

(Continued on page 2)



'They raised over \$44 million and we feel that at least 10 percent of those dollars are gay dollars. What's coming back into the gay community is tiny by comparison. They have made no recognition that there is a health crisis in our community. We have 1,000 men dead and 1,000 sick men in San Francisco.'

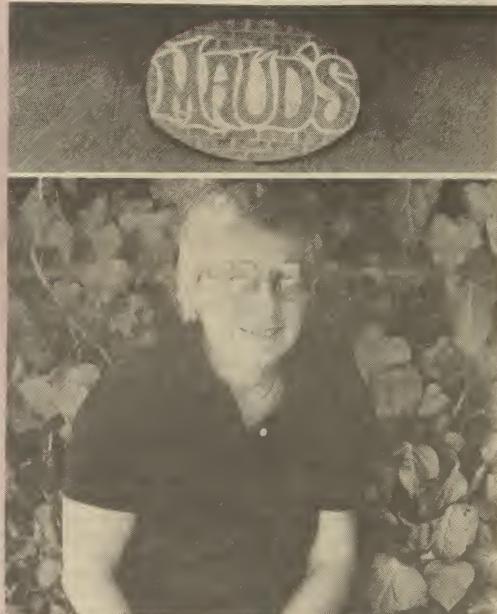
—Arthur Lazere

'...And Then There's Maud's'

Rikki Streicher takes a breather outside of Maud's, a bar she owns. Maud's is a special bar with a special celebration this weekend. On Saturday, June 7, Maud's will celebrate its 20th anniversary. It is the oldest ongoing women's bar in the world.

Congratulations, Rikki. May you have many more years.

(Photo: Rink)



'Quiet, Likable Guy' Fatally Stabbed

Friends Charge Slipshod Police Work By 'Cop For Christ' Investigator

by Will Snyder

George Williams, a 57-year old gay man, was stabbed to death in his Hayes Street apartment May 22. The assailant apparently is a white male, six feet tall, with a medium build. He is estimated to be between 26-29 years old. What irks Williams' friends about the aftermath of the stabbing is the apparent indifference on the part of the police. Williams' bloodied body was found on May 24.

Doug Comstock, a neighbor of Williams in the Hayes St. apartment building, said he heard violent noises coming from Williams' apartment late in the afternoon. Shortly after, Comstock said, his dog alerted him that there was someone at the door. When Comstock opened the door, the apparent assailant was at the door.

'He asked how to get out of the building,' Comstock recalled. 'I

had a chance to perfectly see what he looks like. He was a white guy, about 6 feet in height, medium build, dark hair, about 26-29 years old, wearing blue jeans, blue jacket, red shirt. He also had a very red face, probably from sunburn.'

What made Comstock angry was the indifference of police investigators. He claimed police

(Continued on page 3)



George Williams and his ten-year old dog, Fannie. 'He was a sweet, gentle man who was very lonely and kept to himself,' said a friend.

Today

Animal Gratification is what one *Christian Science Monitor* called gay sexual love. Charlie Linebarger reports on the latest to do with the KQED boycott, page 4.

Gay Dad refused to take HTLV-3 antibody test so a Chicago judge won't let him see his kids, according to Greg Douthwaite, page 5.

San Jose is expanding its gay and lesbian community center which officially opens new quarters this month. Dot James has the story on page 18.

Gay's the Word for smut in Britain so Modern Times Bookstore is holding a series of benefits for the London bookshop on trial for obscenity, see page 22.

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Seattle

(Continued from page 1)

filing suit, contending that the language of the petitions constituted flagrant misrepresentation.

On the form circulated by the Concerned Citizens, the actual wording of the FEO was obscured by a flap which read, "Repeal special rights for homosexuals, transvestites, child molesters, sadomasochists, rapists and other persons with deviant sexual orientations!"

Judge Dixon upheld the misrepresentation claim and ordered immediate implementation of the FEO, calling the Concerned Citizens tactic "very close to fraud," according to attorney Janis Bianchi, who repre-

sented the plaintiffs (Yes on 7 committee) for the National Lawyers' Guild.

"This says that the right wing Washington has to abide by the law like anyone else," Bianchi told *B.A.R.*

While Yes on 7 was gearing up, State Representative Glenn Dobbs was spearheading another effort to place on the November ballot one of the rankest anti-gay initiatives to come down the pipe in years.

Initiative 490 would repeal Gov. Booth Gardner's executive order banning anti-gay discrimination in state employment. It would also repeal all local gay rights ordinances, criminalize advocacy of "special privileges" for lesbians and gays, and pro-

hibit employment of lesbians and gay men in education, health care and any positions dealing with children or senior citizens. The measure would even make it a crime to represent homosexuality "in an affirmative or neutral light" in the schools.

Its backers have until late June to file. Local sources say they are almost certain to get the required 200,000 signatures. Lesbian and gay activists held a statewide meeting in May to begin planning the fight, which they anticipate will be a tough one.

In contrast to liberal western Washington, the eastern part of the state tends to be a hotbed of reaction, with pockets of right wing, survivalist sentiment. ●

United

(Continued from page 1)

Arthur Lazere, a member of the city's Industrial Development Commission and a long-time activist with United Way of the Bay Area, outlined the problems the gay group sees at United Way. "They raised over \$44-million and we feel that at least 10 percent of those dollars are gay dollars. What's coming back into the gay community is tiny by comparison," said Lazere. "They have made no recognition that there is a health crisis in our community. We have 1000 men dead and 1000 men sick here in San Francisco," he said.

Lazere noted that he called the executive director of United Way, Joe Valentine, four years ago. "I told him we were on the verge of a tragic epidemic," Lazere recalled, "and I asked him what United Way was going to do about it. He got back to me a week later and said the Cancer Society had made an AIDS research grant of \$50,000 and they were a member agency. So, he took credit for what they did and said he didn't have anymore money. It's now four years later and we have all these men dead and all these men sick."

Among the demands raised by the gay men and lesbians at the meeting last week with United Way was one that new gay agencies be admitted to membership in the organization. So far, only two Bay Area gay agencies, the Pacific Center in Berkeley, and Operation Concern in San Francisco, have been admitted to membership in United Way.

There was also a call for more

money for gay and lesbian health concerns, particularly for AIDS. Sensitivity training on gay issues was requested for United Way staff and the staff of its member agencies.

Lazere pointed out that the presence of gays and lesbians in the Bay Area is ignored in United Way's magazine, in their television commercials and in their campaign materials. "It's like they don't want anyone to know that we're there," noted Lazere.

United Way has also been asked to require that all of its 242 member agencies not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation in employment policies and in the provision of services.

Among the gay men and women who participated in the May 29 meeting were Roberta Achtenberg, Pat Norman, Greg Day, Donna Yutsi, Dianne Christensen, Andrew Beckerman, Dave Wharton, Carole Migden, Jackie Winnow, and Lazere.

Dianne Christensen, of Community United Against Violence, has been involved with United Way for years beginning as a volunteer for the charity at the age of 19. "I was one of the people who went to United Way three years ago and said you're not funding gay agencies," recalled Christensen.

"I want them to set aside a lump sum to fight AIDS," she said. "They need to make a special appropriation to fight AIDS. They are not even looking at this crisis and, so, what happens is you have a small amount of money going to the special needs fund for various organizations to fight over. I don't think that's fair. This is too huge a crisis."

Christensen added that most of the things asked for in last

week's meeting had originally been brought up with United Way three years ago. She said there was a lack of communication between the charity organization and the gay community.

Tim Dayonet, United Way spokesperson, was at the May 29 meeting. He said the gay leaders had voiced their concern that more of the charity's dollars go to the fight against AIDS. He said he didn't know what United Way's response would be.

"The executive director is taking their recommendations to the board of directors," said Dayonet. "He's conferring with them now, and at the next meeting there will be members of the board present."

Over \$40-million was raised this last year by United Way. Of that, little more than half million dollars went to gay-identified agencies. And of that half million dollars, more than half went to gay agencies as a result of individual donor option by people contributing to United Way. United Way itself earmarked only \$338,991 for distribution among ten different gay agencies.

Christensen noted that many of the gay agencies are actually taking 25 percent cuts from the money that United Way had allocated for them last year.

Lazere explained the feelings of those involved in the meeting with United Way, saying, "These people are angry. They've all come to United Way in the last five years in good faith as volunteers in order to turn this organization around. And they are disappointed. We are prepared to do whatever is necessary to turn United Way around on the issues of concern to the gay and lesbian community." ●

Man Acquitted Of Assaulting Cop

Refused to Plea Bargain; Jury Finds Innocent on All Charges

by Charles Linebarger

A San Francisco man with AIDS who had been arrested and tried for indecent exposure has been acquitted of all charges by a jury of eight women and four men. Requesting that his name not be published, he had been accused of masturbating in the Golden Gate Park and of attacking an unidentified woman.

"I'm speaking to my attorney tomorrow about instituting proceedings for malicious prosecution," said the acquitted man.

According to attorney Jeff Adachi, the assistant public defender who represented the ac-

quitted man, the jury was out for one hour and twenty minutes considering their verdict. "Generally on a not guilty verdict they'll come back later," noted Adachi. "[My client] was crying when they read the verdict. For him, it means justice at

last."

If the gay man had been convicted, it could have meant a sentence of one and a half years behind bars.

"Several jurors stayed over to congratulate me," said the gay man, "they were curious as to whether I was going to sue. Even the prosecution congratulated me afterward."

WHERE'S THE BEEF?

The gay man recalled for the *Bay Area Reporter* his feelings as he sat in the courtroom, unsure whether he would leave a free man or a convicted felon. "I've never been through anything like this before. My attorney told me he knew I was innocent but he warned me that a lot of innocent people go to jail."

At the trial one of the arresting officers, according to the gay man, had testified that a pool of liquid found near him, when he

(Continued on page 16)

Cranston To Face Zschau in Nov.

AIDS Research Proposition Wins Despite Little Support

by Wayne Friday

California Republicans chose Peninsula Congressman Ed Zschau from eleven GOP candidates in Tuesday's primary to run against veteran Democrat Sen. Alan Cranston in the November election. Voters also gave former Lt. Gov. Mike Curb, once a political enemy of Gov. George Deukmejian, another shot at his old job.

Zschau took 31 percent of the vote to beat his nearest rival, former Los Angeles television commentator Bruce Hershensohn. Political analysts immediately gave the moderate Republican an "even chance" of defeating Cranston.

Curb, defeated by Deukmejian four years ago in the gubernatorial primary, will face incumbent Lt. Gov. Leo McCarty. Curb, too, must be given at least a good chance of winning his former job back.

Stabbing

(Continued from page 1)

inspectors Herman Clark and James Crowley would not show him mug shots nor allow a police staff artist to draw a sketch of Comstock's description of the suspect.

"Another thing about Crowley," said Comstock, "is that he was wearing a belt buckle that said 'Jesus is Lord.'

Gay attorney John Wahl, who helped Comstock and another Williams friend, Al Willis, retrieve the deceased's 10-year-old dog, Fannie, from a kennel, was furious about Crowley being on the Williams case.

"He is apparently with 'Cops For Christ,'" said Wahl. "I know what Cops for Christ think of the gay lifestyle and I don't think Inspector Crowley should be on the case. This is a slipshod job and his motivation is really suspect."

Neither Crowley nor Clark were available for comment.

According to Comstock and Willis, Williams was a quiet and likable person, but basically a loner who made limited sexual contacts around United Nations Plaza. A native of Enid, OK, Williams apparently lived in San Francisco for many years. According to Willis, Williams' quiet passions in life included classical music and dog grooming.

"He was a sweet, gentle man who was very lonely and kept to himself," said Willis.

According to Willis, Williams apparently had a premonition of trouble just minutes before he died.

"He called me up and told me he had a shaky person with him," said Willis. "He said the guy was in the shower and he wasn't sure what to do. He said the guy asked for money and he didn't have any. I told him he should give the guy a nice meal. He said he would call if there was any difficulty."

But Williams never did call. There was evidence of a struggle of some kind. Blood was on the walls. There were multiple stab wounds in Williams' body.

Willis has requested that anyone who may have seen Williams with the suspect get in touch with him at 826-2968. •



Ed Zschau



Jackie Speier



Gray Davis

state Senate district and is headed for a November showdown with Sup. Quentin Kopp, who will appear on the ballot as an Independent.

San Mateo Sup. Jackie Speier apparently handed Speaker Willie Brown's political machine a bitter loss by defeating Brown candidate, police officer Michael Nevin. It was a close race for the nomination in the 19th Assembly district, which takes in parts of both San Francisco and San Mateo counties.

In San Francisco, Assemblyman Lou Papan won the Democratic nomination in the 8th

cent to 27 percent margin.

Propositions A (Claims bureau), B (\$50,000 contracts), F (restrict lobbyists), and H (AIDS research) all passed, while E (Balboa housing permits), G (South Africa boycott), and I and J (the Embarcadero Freeway measures) were all defeated.

Public Defender Jeff Brown and Assessor Sam Duca, both running without opposition, were re-elected in Tuesday's election.

On the state level, Republican Gov. George Deukmejian and Democratic Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles both won over token opposition to set up a re-

match of the 1982 gubernatorial race.

San Francisco Congressmembers Barbara Boxer and Sala Burton easily won re-nomination over LaRouche-backed candidates. They will face Republicans Franklin Ernst and Mike Garza in the November general election. •

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GREAT EARTH VITAMIN STORES

Monitor Defends Anti-Gay Job Bias

MonitoRadio Part of Church Work;
Gays Mentally Ill Sensualists

by Charles Linebarger

A spokesperson for MonitoRadio, the daily news show which is produced by the Christian Science Church and is broadcast on radio station KQED-FM, told the *Bay Area Reporter* this week that his office has received hundreds of letters complaining about discrimination against gays in hiring by the show's producers. But he added that because of the mere "animal gratification" inherent in same-sex relationships, gays would never be acceptable as staff on MonitoRadio.

Paul Daugherty, public broadcasting activities manager for MonitoRadio took pains to explain why a gay man or lesbian could never be an acceptable Christian Scientist. "I wouldn't classify it (being gay) as a physical sickness. It's a mental thing," he said.

"True love", continued Daugherty, "that very high sense of love, when it comes to the physical expression, becomes sensualism when it takes place between two men or two women. It becomes animal gratification. With my wife—we're expecting a child in August—we work so hard to live the experience of our love above the animal level to a higher spiritual level. Frankly, I don't think that's possible between two men."

"Frequently with diseases like AIDS, and syphilis and gonorrhea, it's sensualism that causes the disease," he said. But

Daugherty added quickly that AIDS is not just a gay disease.

Daugherty admitted that there are no Christian Science doctors, though there are nurses to care for believers while they wait for their healing. He himself has never taken an aspirin and believes that the cause of cancer is "a great hatred against an individual". He also believes that drug companies somehow transmit diseases through their advertising.

When asked what kind of feedback he has received from around the country because of MonitoRadio's discriminatory hiring policies, Daugherty said that they had received "hundreds of letters" from San Francisco, mostly critical of the hiring policy. They have also received some letters from New York, "but New York is probably the second most organized gay community".

Daugherty said he foresaw no change in the program's hiring bar against gays because "what appears in print reflects the mind of the writer". He pointed out that the U.S. Supreme Court has upheld a church's right to discriminate against whomever it wants. "What we're doing is legal," he said.

Talking about the Christine Madsen case, the lesbian reporter who was fired a year ago from the *Christian Science Monitor* when it was discovered that she was a lesbian, Daugherty noted that MonitoRadio would "fire somebody here if they were an adulterer, so we're not singling out the gay community".

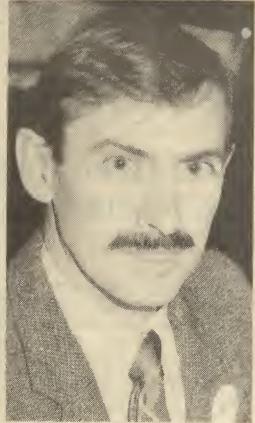
MEANWHILE, AT KQED

In answer to a request made months ago that public broadcaster KQED allow members of the gay community to present their issues before the community advisory panel a "gay forum" has been set at KQED for June 19.

Roberto Esteves, president of the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club, was asked by the various organizations involved in the lesbian-gay boycott against KQED to draw up a list of demands to present to the station. Those demands, he said, were basically two simple requests:

1) "That a gay programming task force be created with KQED staff and community representatives to study the feasibility of producing on-going gay programming, including setting goals for the number of hours of gay programming possible in a year and the amount of money necessary to reach this goal. And that KQED have a policy regarding the inclusion of lesbian and gay cultures and talent in regular KQED programming.

2) "To formalize communica-



Roberto Esteves (Photo: Rink)

tion with the gay community, KQED should appoint gay and lesbian representatives to the board of directors; and to have direct gay input into policy development and fundraising strategy KQED should appoint gays and lesbians to the community advisory panel for better communication with the lesbian-gay community."

Esteves presented the demands to KQED over a month ago and has yet to hear a response from the station.

Gay leaders have also presented KQED with the names of five gay men and lesbians as nominees for openings currently available on the station's board of directors and community advisory panel. The five are: Carole Migden, John Zorbas, Steve Walters, Donna Yutsi and Roberto Esteves.

"It is my hope," said Esteves, "that they will be appointing someone to the board of directors and to the community advisory panel as a positive action to alleviate the strain and tension that have developed between KQED and the gay community. It's in their ballpark. But if we're not considered for the board then we'll have to go through the petition process to nominate someone ourselves."

Other leaders in the community were talking about the prospect of future demonstrations at KQED studios during the Gay Pride celebrations during the last week in June.

Anyone wishing to attend the June 19 forum (5-7 p.m.) may do so by calling Roberto Esteves at 621-7541.

Interfaith Healing Service

An ecumenical healing service for persons touched by the crisis of AIDS and ARC, their families, friends, and other concerned persons, will be held June 7 at 7 p.m. at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Cathedral, at the corner of 21st and San Pablo, in Oakland. The prayer vigil will include scripture readings, anointing, and imposition of hands. Participants will include Reverend James Keeley, rector of the Cathedral; Reverend James Schexnayder, pastor of St. Augustine's in Oakland; Reverend P. Michael Galvan, director of the Office of Clergy Formation for the Diocese of Oakland; Episcopcal priest Jerry Brown; and Jim Lawer, chaplain of the United Church of Christ AIDS ministry. All concerned persons are invited.



Dianne Feinstein



Bill Maher

Gay Dad Refuses Test; Denied Children's Visits

Case Delayed by Judges Too Bigoted to Rule; Ex-Wife Claims Father Might Give Kids AIDS

by Gregory Douthwaite

A gay father has been ordered to take the AIDS antibody test before his two young daughters can visit him in San Francisco. It is the first time in the nation that the blood test has been mandated in a custody case to determine visitation rights.

The father, called John Doe in court documents, was ordered to take the test last November by a judge in family court in Chicago. Doe, 34, refused to take the test, and is appealing the ruling.

Last week, another judge was scheduled to hear the case in family court, but he excused himself from the case. "I felt I could not give a fair verdict based on a number of factors, but basically it is because of the man's lifestyle," the judge told reporters.

A new judge, Howard Kaufman, has been assigned to the case, and a decision should be reached by June 14. Kaufman is the fourth judge assigned to the case; the second judge, like the third, refused to make a ruling.

Doe is upset by the delays. "The court made a ruling, we made an appeal, and now we can't find a judge to hear it," he told the *S.F. Examiner*. "It's got to be that deep down inside the judges think the ruling was absurd, but they don't want to lose the public's vote by ruling on it."

Doe wants his daughters, who are 9 and 11 years old, to visit him for a few weeks this summer. He moved to San Francisco in April of last year, and is working for a steamship company. He

has refused to take the test on a number of grounds, including concern for his privacy.

Doe divorced his wife, called Susan Doe, in 1978. Doe's visitation rights were revoked in 1983 because he had a live-in lover. But Doe broke up with his lover after moving to San Francisco, and says if the children come to visit, he will be sleeping alone.

Doe is appealing the latest attack on his visitation rights with the legal assistance of National Gay Rights Advocates, a San Francisco-based group. Ben Schatz, director of NGRA's AIDS Civil Rights Project, says Doe was singled out for discriminatory testing because he is gay. He is confident that Doe will eventually win visitation rights. "The question is making sure we are not dealing with judges who are prejudiced," said Schatz.

The AIDS antibody test has been licensed by the federal Food and Drug Administration solely for screening blood, Schatz said. Using the test to

determine custody rights is "illegal, inappropriate, and a misuse of the test," he said.

The test cannot determine whether a person has AIDS or will get AIDS. Using the test in court would be "improper evidence" because any new test must be of proven reliability, Schatz said. Most courts still do not allow the lie detector test for that reason, he noted.

Doe says the judge's order violates his constitutional rights, and will not prove anything. "I don't see how taking the test can protect my children, and I don't see how keeping the children from their natural father is protecting them," he said.

Doe does not have AIDS; his doctor has stated that he is in "generally good health." Moreover, even if he had been exposed to the virus believed to cause AIDS, his children would be in no danger through casual contact with him.

But Doe's ex-wife's attorney,

(Continued on page 13)

Funds Coming In To Rebuild Youth Center

by Will Snyder

It appears as though tragedy is turning into triumph for the Larkin St. Youth Center. A May 21 fire caused \$30,000 worth of damage to the 1040 Larkin St. facility which offers recreation, education, counseling and medicine to runaway youths. But since that night, an aggressive fund-raising drive has netted \$26,000. Different sources have indicated more money soon will be on the way.

"We're a little more than halfway past our goal of \$50,000," said Greg Day, community relations director of the center. "We had a terrible tragedy, but I guess this is ending up being a blessing in disguise. The response of the community to our troubles has been gratifying and heart-warming."

Day said he hopes to announce a \$5,000 donation from a civic organization today. There may be help from other sources soon, according to San Francisco Sup. Bill Maher, who said he has been talking with a private foundation about a significant contribution.

Both Maher and Mayor Dianne Feinstein lobbied the Gannett Foundation, which contributed \$5,000 to the center. Hands Across America, a project for USA For Africa, also donated \$5,000. A organization called Friends of Shelter gave the center a cashier's check for \$3,000. Other noteworthy contributors

include St. John's United Church of Christ (\$1,000), the Castro Lions (\$500), Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights (\$400) and Mrs. Ralph K. Davies (\$300).

Maher refused to take credit for helping with the fundraising. He said that both he and Feinstein just happened to be talking to the same people, in this case, Gannett.

Day said he was particularly pleased with the support the gay and lesbian community has given to the center. "I think it is good that we should pick up on our responsibilities," he said. "We have a lot of well-educated people in the gay and lesbian community. Many of our people do have the money and the resources to do something."

While the money has been coming in, many of the teenagers who frequent the center have been taking turns sitting in front of the burned building trying to collect funds.

Mandate Announces Fiction Contest

Mandate magazine has announced its sponsorship of a Short Fiction Contest, with a cash grant of \$2,000 to be awarded for the best gay short story submitted through 1986. A second prize of \$500 will also be awarded.

The announcement from editor-in-chief Freeman Gunter came in a letter from the editor in the July issue of *Mandate* (on sale June 1). The July issue celebrates gay pride and personal liberation. It is the first time that *Mandate* has marked Gay Pride Month with a special issue.

"At *Mandate* we believe that the brain is the most potent sex organ of all. Sensuality begins in the mind, with an idea, an image, a concept," Gunter said. "Our aim is to enlarge the self-imposed boundaries of gay literature to demonstrate that writing of real quality can enrich, inspire, and arouse."

To be eligible for the contest, a story must not have been pre-

viously published, and its author cannot have published an entire book. Appearances of a writer's short fiction in magazines and anthologies is permissible, but the object of the contest is to discover and promote new writers of exceptional talent. All contest submissions will be considered for publication in *Mandate*, and all eligible submissions to the magazine will be automatically entered in the fiction contest.

Gunter will choose the top ten stories and pass them on for final judging to a panel of five recognized leaders in gay literature. The judges are currently being selected and the final panel will be announced in an upcoming issue of *Mandate*.

Submissions should be sent to Freeman Gunter, editor-in-chief, *Mandate* Magazine, 155 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10013. Deadline for entry is December 31, 1986. The contest winner and runner-up will be announced in mid-1987.

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VOL. XVI NO. 23 JUNE 5, 1986

NEXT DEADLINE: JUNE 6

NEXT ISSUE OUT: JUNE 12



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EDITORIALS & OPINIONS

Naked Supermarket

I quart of milk, pound of sugar, baloney, mayo, white bread and Penthouse. It's become a standard shopping list for Americans making a dash to the neighborhood supermarket. Yes, right along with the Pampers and Wheats, middle America has gotten used to seeing an array of pornography—*Playboy*, *Oui*, *Penthouse*, even *Playgirl*.

Of course, the corner 7/Eleven and others don't stock such esteemable periodicals to impress their customers with some gratuitous display of sophistication. The stores stock the stuff because the customers buy it. It can be argued, by those more experienced in the genre, that *Playboy*, et al., are to pornography what nursery rhymes are to poetry. But if Americans don't know art, they know what they like. And they like their porn. It's a case of democracy swinging into action.

Now enter our government, the Reagan regime elected by those same porn-watching democrats. One of Reagan's slogans was "get the government off our backs". But it seems it's only moved around to the front. The Reganoids are miffed about pornography. They want it out of the supermarket. They want it stopped wherever it rears its ugly head.

And they're serious. So serious that they've even connected pornography to violence, something nobody else has been able to do. At least they think they've connected it to violence. The Meese Commission on Pornography set out to make that point and they found (some say, manufactured) the evidence to back up their claim.

Pornography is the perfect sort of issue for Ronald Reagan's Presidency. Porn is a symbol of the new (decadent) America taking over from the old (self-righteous and decadent) America. Smut shops now line the streets of Our Town where once only maple trees and elm trees and Methodist churches grew. Children used to frolic happily, not smoke dope and have sex. So the myth goes. And Reagan's politics of myth is very comforting to the powerless and the frustrated out there.

The soon to be released Meese Commission report—said to be itself some dicey reading—blames the spread of pornography for the rise in violence in American life. The commission

says it has evidence that violent smut leads to violent behavior. This is the gospel according to Andrea Dworkin and snuff films.

The key term is "violent". It's long been known that violence fosters violence. What the commission ought to look at is the nightly dose of melodrama served up television in the family rooms of America. Sometimes the killings out number the commercials. Viewers see hour after hour of guns, knives, clubs, colossal explosions, machine guns and enough fancy weaponry to arm a Contra battalion. The beatings and killings are all sanitized and stylized, of course, with victims neatly falling over as of suddenly falling asleep. Real violence and real victims ain't so pretty.

What does sex have to do with it? Nothing. Surely, the lacey ladies on satin sheets in *Oui* don't promote violence.

The pre-occupation with pornography lamely connected to violence comes out of this society's sex-phobia and its refusal to deal with the problem of violence. It is passion America fears, not violence.

If the Meese Commission wants to protect and upgrade the status of women—something never before seen on the Reagan agenda—they should go to the root evil of violent sexism and the pervasive notion among straight American males that violence of any kind is their right, their pleasure, and an acceptable response to whomever they don't like.

Americans have made their choice and we don't need a government commission to tell us what it is. People are buying porn in record numbers whether *Playgirl* fantasies or hard core videos or artsy erotica. We might even be learning to like sex. All kinds of sex.

Coming from the Reagan Administration, preachments on porn are just more pious blather to soothe some hypocrite church-voters who, from time to time, get busted for dealing in kiddie porn. The real pornographers wear three-piece suits. For a real snuff film, tune in the nightly news or Miami Vice or the A-team.

•
Ray O'Loughlin

IN MY OPINION

Lesbians, Gay Men and the Democratic Party

by John Laird

Periodically, the gay and lesbian movement and its affiliation with the Democratic Party are questioned.

Personally, I think affiliation with the Democratic Party is important. Not only are our goals consistent with the general party goals of human rights at home and abroad, but I have always believed the party is the most comfortable for gay men and lesbians politically. This is borne out by the fact that of 25 openly lesbian and gay elected officials in the country, I know of only one who is a Republican.

I take the long view. We will win and lose fights, but our goal must be to ensure that the Democratic Party recognizes that gay men and lesbians are primarily Democrats and will not go away. The party platforms must recognize this on issues, and must make rules that allow for participation of gay men and lesbians in the party structure. The Democrats are the best hope for social change within our political system.

Last year was not a good year for gay men and lesbians in the Democratic Party. The 378 members of the Democratic National Committee—which of which three are openly gay—voted to eliminate the official recognition of the Lesbian and Gay Caucus. It was as much this action as it was the manner in which it was handled that did and should have offended all gay and lesbian Democrats.

As a protest, Chris Riddiough, president of the Gertrude Stein Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club of Washington, D.C., stood as a write-in candidate against a slate of candidates for party office hand-picked by the National Chairman of the Democratic Party. Despite the pressure from the top, and the cumbersome write-in process, she garnered 22 percent of the vote—surprising the party “regulars.”

Leading the fight against the elimination of the caucus and for Chris' candidacy has been the National Association of Lesbian and Gay Democratic Clubs. Representing almost 200 organizations nationwide, and operating on a shoestring budget out of Washington, D.C., the national association has taken the lead in the struggle for recognition of gay concerns by the national Democratic Party.

There is now a California Association of Lesbian and Gay Democratic Clubs. The first convention was held in San Francisco in April, and was well attended. The Lesbian and Gay Caucus of the California Democratic Party was never threatened—and gay men and lesbians are well represented in the different levels of the party structure.

Last fall's successful West Hollywood Conference of openly gay elected and appointed officials was co-sponsored by the National Association. And during a weekend day of the recent visit by openly gay and lesbian elected officials to D.C., the National Association set up meetings with the new executive director of the Democratic National Committee and the executive director of the Democratic Party Commission.

The Democratic Policy Commission was formed last fall for one year—with the goal of retooling the ideas that bind together the Democratic Party. One hundred office holders and party activists nationwide were named to the commission. Eighteen openly gay elected officials—including myself—were nominated for membership on the commission. None were selected.

Our meeting with the executive director of the Policy Commission went extremely well. He was genuinely surprised that we were not single-issue elected officials and were concerned about issues such as community development, human services, and housing, as well as gay and lesbian civil rights, and family issues were distributed to the members of the commission and Democratic National Committee.

The fact that last year's negative actions by the Democratic Party did not deter us from our goals, and in fact, caused us to redouble our efforts—sent the kind of message Democrats always need to hear: that we are reasonable, we are committed, we are competent, we are effective, and we are not going away. That is the constant struggle with the Democratic Party.

It is an important fight. We must not let temporary setbacks do anything but make us organize and work harder. That is why it is important to maintain a Democratic affiliation, and that's why we must use that involvement to keep the Democratic Party honest on our issues.

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LETTERS

Yes, We're Dykes, But . . .

★ On Saturday, May 3, Leather and Blues, a women's motorcycle club, helped with traffic control and safety at the very successful fundraiser, the Bike-A-Thon. While we appreciate the article written concerning the Bike-A-Thon, we would like to point out that once again, we were labeled "Dykes on Bikes," on the front page picture. We are certainly dykes and are obviously on bikes, however, over the past four years there have been discrepancies concerning exactly who and what dykes on bikes are. There are two separate organizations which have utilized that name for a club design, while only one in Berkeley has legally established themselves as this.

As a result of all of this, we, a group of women who ride and are involved with motorcycles, have established Leather and Blues a women's motorcycle club. We are a non-profit corporation and have been involved in fundraising for San Francisco AIDS Foundation Food Bank, feeding the homeless at Glide Memorial Church, helping feed elderly in our community on holidays and for Big Mountain Defense Fund. We also plan runs and parties for members of our club and for all women who ride motorcycles. We hope to one day have a fund for loaning money to women to repair or buy bikes. One of our major goals has been and will continue to be for all women to have the right to ride their motorcycles, meet other women who do and to experience the benefits of being in a community with a large population of women motorcycle riders.

Again, we appreciate your coverage. We merely wanted to point out that while generically we're dykes on bikes, we are not a member of any established "dykes on bikes organization"; but instead Leather and Blues and we were asked to help support the Bike-A-Thon, an extremely worthy cause.

Lynnalia Wilkes and six others
Leather & Blues
San Francisco

Do Your Homework

★ We are writing in response to part two of Brian Jones' "The Case for the Boycott (against KQED)" [B.A.R., May 15]. Mr. Jones states, "KQED supports job discrimination against lesbians and gay men . . . (and) . . . systematically excludes gays and lesbians in its governance and staff!" As some of the lesbian and gay members of the KQED staff, we find such a statement to be absurd. There is a large number of staff members, encompassing a wide range of responsibilities, in both management and staff positions, that are openly lesbians and gay men. We see no attempts to exclude gays and lesbians, and we do not find the atmosphere at KQED to be homophobic.

Mr. Jones further states, ". . . gays don't rate in KQED's non-discrimination policy. This is, in and of itself, a systematic exclusion of gay people." Had he done his homework and asked for the policy, he could have seen in the KQED Employee Handbook, ". . . in matters affecting recruitment, application for employment, training and volunteer work, KQED will take affirmative action to insure that each employee, trainee, volunteer and applicant, regardless of sexual orientation will be accorded equal treatment with respect to all terms, conditions and privileges of selection, placement and opportunities for advancement."

There are many real issues, and a divergence of opinion, that are being discussed (*MonitorRadio* on KQED-FM, the broadcast of *Frontline*, gay representation on the Community Advisory Committee and KQED Board, the amount of lesbian/gay programming) without inventing issues where none exist. We do not necessarily agree with management or each other on what KQED should be doing regarding these issues, but it should be noted, we do not feel at all intimidated in voicing our opinions.

Alan Voorhees
and 20 others
San Francisco

B.A.R., You Goofed

★ Several months ago, the TV evening news made mention of a promising new drug to combat AIDS. I felt real secure with the thought that the B.A.R. would inform me completely and in depth of the development. Thursday came and your cover story was of Boom-Boom's impending marriage. I quote only this one instance; we all know there are many similar where profound things happen that affect gays—but your front page stories reflect only our seamy or frivolous side.

Let me state another more recent event: this past week, we all had a chance to join in an international statement on AIDS; a chance to show to the world our serious side—our concerns for ourselves and our brothers, our compassion for those ill and those dying, our memories of those dead, our plea for more research dollars, and our good-image human side in general. AIDS needs all the public support

we can muster especially in these conservative times. The AIDS march was an international event with 80 cities and 10 countries around the world participating. San Francisco was televised on prime time news as the largest of its kind—yet you drummed up our support with one-twelfth on an innocuous page 12. You deserved the front page for a wet boxer shorts contest.

Mr. Editor, what do you think are the gay priorities in 1986? What do you think is on each and everyone of our minds in 1986? Boxer-shorts? Pseudo-Sisters? Drag balls?

In the next several weeks, the United States Supreme Court will decide on an issue of import to every gay in America. I pray that Boom Boom doesn't decide to have a hang-nail that week.

Keith Reiter
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: The information concerned with the Candlelight March was given to B.A.R. at the very last moment, unfortunately a habit with Mobilization Against AIDS, despite our constant pleas. The organization has yet to realize the importance of deadlines. When it does, everyone will benefit.

As for "the gay priorities of 1986," we invite Mr. Reiter to look at back issues for page one articles on how the state Republicans plan to use AIDS as a campaign issue, on how hundreds of thousands of dollars were raised for AIDS research by the Bike-a-Thon, or for that matter, the whole KQED issue. We covered them all . . . and more.

B.A.R. will never claim to be perfect; no newspaper is. But we also have to please our critics who say we don't print anything happy. That's why we also print pictures of frivolous things such as wet shorts contests. We know it is difficult these days, but we have to try and smile once in awhile.

When Mobilization realizes it can't fling a press release at us at the last moment—a time when reporters are already too deep into other stories—then we'll all smile.

—Will Snyder

Run For The Closet

★ The Gay Freedom Day Parade committee should be ashamed of their criticism against the two straight women leading the parade. We who are gay ask that straight people be liberated, but when it comes time for us to do the same we run for a closet. This really boils down to petty political jealousy. Both women involved have given their time, money and support to gay people, not to mention something called "love." There is a lesson in all this, but have we learned it? Why not ask the men in Ward 5-B what they think.

Daniel Foster
San Francisco

As Viable As Ever

★ Because we are often quick to criticize and slow to praise, this letter is being written to congratulate the entire Lesbian/Gay Community for the inordinately amount of love and pride they are expending in our efforts to achieve the objectives of our movement.

We have experienced, in just a few short weeks, the unprecedented uniting of our efforts to help People With AIDS by the success of the 1986 Bike-A-Thon, followed by our joining together by the thousands to march in the Candlelight Vigil.

At the same time, hundreds of our brothers and sisters are collectively working on the Lesbian/Gay Pride Freedom Day Parade and the Gay Games II, both promising to show the country and the world that we truly are united, strong and determined.

With these kinds of efforts even the most skeptical person must admit that the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Community remains as viable as ever.

We can, do and will make a difference.

Steven H. Rascher
Executive Director
Golden Gate Business Association
San Francisco

The First And The Last

★ I agree, but disagree with Mr. Marcus' recent column regarding the Closet Ball. The tables around us also felt the winner should have been Grace #4. If not winner, certainly in the top five.

So I do question the judges decision and I smell a rat somewhere. The odor is strong enough to have made that our first and last Closet Ball.

I had been warned about that but hoped it would be a fun fair evening for all the community. Sad.

Earl Young
San Francisco



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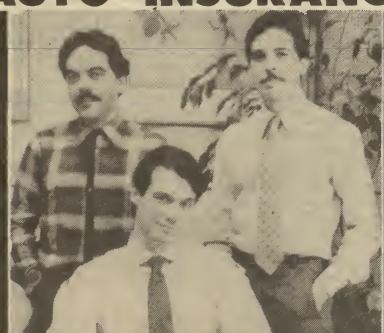
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LETTERS

Closet or Closed?

★ Is it a *Closet Ball* or a *Closed Ball*?

From the double-take he gave me at the first rehearsal until the show was over, I felt that Director Carl Berry went out of his way to let me, the show's only black contestant, know that I was unwelcome. I took the show seriously, was always on time for rehearsals, and worked hard on my walk which I still feel was the best. Berry still seemed to resent it.

I have had very long finger nails since high school. For the past year, they have been designed with colors by Phil of Fancy Fingers. During the full run of rehearsals they were painted and nothing was ever said about them. At rehearsal on the morning of the ball, however, both Perry and the producer Wally Rutherford observed my freshly done nails and told me that I might be *disqualified*. I explained to Wally that I would be happy to go home and take the paint off my nails. He had thought that they were press-on nails. I also explained that I would be wearing gloves as the "male". He assured me that I would be alright.

Lo and behold, they still disqualified me without even notifying me or my sponsor. If my nails were the problem I could have easily worn gloves as the "female" and never exposed them at all. In the opinion of many in attendance, my stage presence wasn't about my nails. It was about having the best original gown and the best walk. Wally and Carl know this well. Rather than give me anything they asked the judges to disqualify me. They didn't even have the decency to tell the audience they did so and why. In Marcus' May 15 column, he stated that the four tables in his vicinity were unanimous in their selection of me as the winner. They weren't the only ones. The public is not a fool. What do Berry and Rutherford think people thought seeing me get nothing when it was clear they liked me.

I didn't win the pageant but the positive response I got from the people at the ball and since the ball tells me that I did win the city of San Francisco.

If the ball is a *Closed* affair for whatever the reason, then be men or woman enough to state it. Watch out, *Closet Ball*. Unfair karma is not good to have around—the payback is a dog!!

Gregory Burrell
(Grace, Contestant #4)
San Francisco

Togetherness

★ On Memorial Day I joined with thousands of people in the Candlelight March for AIDS and ARC. I want to congratulate those who planned, and those who took part in the event, making it such a beautiful and moving experience. The march gave us the opportunity, as a community, to show our support for those who have AIDS and ARC, and to grieve for those who have lost their lives. I felt a sense of togetherness and community that I have never experienced before. Let us hope, as was said afterwards at City Hall, that there will not need to be such a march next year.

Mark Elkin
San Francisco

Read Your Civics Book

★ Gary Goodall's May 22nd letter on Justice Rose Bird and the death penalty is almost unbelievable. Has he forgotten what he learned about American civics in grammar school?

The constitutionality of any idea, of any issue, of any action, or of any statutory law is never conferred by a majority vote of citizens.

If such were the case, many gay men and women, simply because they were gay, would also be sitting on death row in some states of this country.

Many Americans, like myself, think that the death penalty per se is such an intrinsic negation of the sacredness of human life that it can never be justified. U.S. Justices William J. Brennan and Thurgood Marshall think thusly and, therefore, hold that the death penalty is always unconstitutional.

Chief Justice Rose Bird in California, however, has never publicly identified herself with this constitutional conviction.

Many other persons uphold theoretically the constitutional right of the state to take away human life in specific instances, but oppose the death penalty in practice because its history in the United States clearly shows it cannot be applied with equitable justice.

The political, social, or economic privileged too often escape facing the death penalty because of their ability to afford competent criminal lawyers who detect technical violations of laws in their arrests or during their trials or who know how to appeal successfully to the built-in prejudices present in any jury.

Does any Bay Area think Daniel James White would have been guilty of manslaughter, if he had

not been a native, ostensibly heterosexual, Irish Catholic San Franciscan with a background in the police and fire departments?

Furthermore, about 75 percent of all homicides are motivated by personal hatred, sexual jealousy, or power domination between friends. The murderers probably never will repeat that crime.

Neither the death penalty nor incarceration address the social causes of violence. Such violence is rooted in the physical, emotional, or sexual abuse of children by their families; in crushing poverty; in poor public education; in racism, in ethnic animosity; in religious bigotry, in sexism, in heterosexism, and probably sometimes in genetic heritage (the double xx ♂ males).

Some Americans conveniently dodge the necessity of addressing the roots of social violence by embracing the illusionary solutions of death penalty or of prison.

In California this November, citizens probably face the most crucial vote of their lives. That vote is neither Rose Bird herself nor the death penalty. It is rather the preservation of a judiciary totally independent of any answerability outside of the principles of the Constitution of the State of California and, ultimately, of the United States Constitution.

Let us fervently hope that Californians, gay and non-gay, will support the supremacy of constitutional government by voting to reconfirm Chief Justice Rose Bird. To do otherwise is to disown the very legacy of this nation.

James F. Gibbons
San Leandro

Give Us More, Wooly

★ Please have Bob Woolhouse provide an annual update of "Charlie Catchphrase Does the Buzzword (B.A.R., May 22)." It's a wonderful amusing picture of us *au courant* humans trying to communicate. I'm still laughing.

Elliot Simon
Guerneville

SB 2480

★ For over 130 years, California voters have had the right to get an independent or third party presidential candidate on the ballot after the Democratic and Republican national conventions, if they were unhappy with the major party nominees and platforms.

Now the legislature is about to deprive us that right. Senate Bill 2480, which has already passed the Senate, would change the filing deadline for an independent candidate to July 22. In 1988, the Democratic National Convention will be July 18-21. If people are dissatisfied with the outcome of that convention, and want to run Jesse Jackson, for example, as an independent, they are now free to do so. But under SB 2480, it would be late.

SB 2480 will be heard in the Assembly Elections Committee on June 25. The excuse for the bill is that County Clerks need more time to check the signatures. If they wouldn't require so many signatures, they wouldn't need more time. New York's deadline is September 20, but New York only requires 20,000 signatures. California requires 135,000 (no other state requires as many as 50,000). The legislature should leave the deadline alone and instead lower the number of signatures.

Remember, the threat of an independent candidacy is the strongest weapon minorities have, to keep the Democratic Party responsive. Don't let them close it off. Call or write your Assemblyman and ask for a "no" vote on SB 2480.

Richard Winger
Candidate for Sec. of State
San Francisco

Public Education and Honig

★ Sadness forces this letter and mootness gives it color, when the race for State Superintendent of Public Instruction is over June 3, 1986. The omission by the B.A.R. and the political clubs of our community on this important race can only reflect the chronic myopia and narrow agenda which the "leaders" of our movement address.

Gay survival is the loser when we adults choose not to participate on the issues of public education. Hasn't anyone noticed the television ads Bill Honig (the incumbent) is putting on? Doesn't anyone in our community question the important issues facing public education (AIDS, positive gayness, etc.)? The upcoming generation of gay men and lesbians deserve the best education on these important social issues, as do we all, and I hope the community will see its folly on June 3.

Michael S. Graham
San Francisco

LIFE AT THE CLOSET DOOR



Wayne Friday

POLITICS & POKER

Dems, GOP Shaken by Fringe Groups' Success

Leaders of both major parties are looking over their shoulders these days. LaRouche followers stated their aim is "taking over the Democratic party", and the results from Michigan's early 'pre-primary' last week shook up the GOP.

While Democratic party leaders publicly claim they are not really worried about inroads made by followers of Lyndon H. LaRouche, privately, these same party strategists are saying that they must identify the LaRouche supporters in hopes of discouraging any further voter support for them and their right-wing policies.

Khushro Gandhi, West Coast coordinator for the LaRouche National Democratic Policy Committee, publicly declared in Los Angeles last week that "in the long run, we want to take over the Democratic Party". He added that by "the long run" he meant even as early as the 1988 elections when LaRouche will be making his fourth run for the presidency.

A one-time member of the Socialist Workers Party, Lyndon LaRouche organized a violence-prone faction of a 1960's student group. That group later made a drastic swing to the right and

established ties with the Ku Klux Klan in 1974. LaRouche and his followers now support causes such as nuclear power and Ronald Reagan's "Star Wars".

California Democratic Party Chairwoman Betty Smith stated recently that "they're not going to take over the party, but it's a little like saying that a few Nazis around are not too bad, as long as they don't get too strong".

The Republicans, too, are worried about the Rev. Pat Robertson, and his religious right followers. Though some Republican officials are calling it a "fluke", Robertson and his followers managed to qualify over 4,000 people in Michigan to run for precinct delegate slots in the state's August 5 primary, the first phase of the long process for selecting Michigan's delegates to the 1988 Republican Convention.

Although the television evangelist's appeal to voters has yet to be tested, political experts are saying that in some key states an expected Robertson candidacy could hurt George Bush and New York Congressman Jack Kemp. Republican party officials fear that a few more successes for the religious right would give hard

line conservatives new encouragement to persuade someone like Pat Robertson to enter the Republican contest—an idea that party leaders fear would turn voters away from the GOP in droves.

District Attorney Arlo Smith will speak to the S.F. Tavern Guild meeting June 10 at Kimo's on Polk Street at 1:30 PM ... Merced Congressman Tony Coelho telling reporters in D.C. last week that "right now, I have the votes" to be elected House Majority Whip next year.

State Senate candidate Lou Papan sent out a press release attacking Independent opponent Quentin Kopp claiming that "Kopp may run as a Decline-To-State candidate for state Senate this year, but he is also considering running again for mayor next year". The release criticized Kopp's political ambitions, adding that "Kopp is known as someone who vigorously shops around for almost any office on the ballot. In fact, since 1979 he has considered running for eight different offices. He was on the ballot for three and lost two". The Papan-Kopp state Senate race in November should be a beauty.

Mike Hennessey's party last week at the Vorpahl Gallery one of the better political gatherings of the early season.

Gay and lesbian activists in Fargo, ND, telling me that for the third straight year, that city's Mayor Jon Lindgren (recently re-elected by a big margin) signed a proclamation declaring June 2-7 as Gay & Lesbian Awareness Week.

Organizers of the Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights recent din-

(Continued on page II)

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Mike Hippler

ON THE OFF BEAT



Isadora

Every now and then, just for the hell of it, I decide to tempt fate and play Isadora. First I reach into my closet for the long white French aviator's scarf I bought in Greenwich Village in 1978 and drape it around my neck. Then I put the top down on the Bugatti and drive madly along the Marin Headlands highway. I pretend it is 1927 and I am in Nice, France. I am drunk, and I have just left an absolutely divine party. All of a sudden, just as I am about to expound on the beauty of music and the glory of Greek dance, the scarf I am wearing entangles in the spokes of the rear wheel. I feel a sharp tug at my throat, and...

But it is not 1927, I am not in the south of France and I am not drunk. I am merely indulging in another warped fantasy—a fan-

tasy which I do not usually allow to carry me to this point, I assure you. For it is not the manner of Isadora Duncan's death that attracts me so much as it is the quality of her life.

Famous primarily for her pioneering work in the field of modern dance, the woman was also one of the most daring and revolutionary free spirits of the century. Although the life she led took its toll, emotionally as well as physically, it is a life that in many respects is worthy of emulation. How wonderful it would be to have known Isadora. Too bad I must be content with pretense.

Isadora was born in San Francisco in 1878 and for a while lived in a house on 17th Street (not too far from Castro, I like to think). For Isadora, however, San Francisco was not the haven of tolerance and freedom it became for later generations.

"The dominant note of my childhood," she wrote in her autobiography, *My Life*, "was the constant spirit of revolt against the narrowness of the society in which we lived, against the limitations of life and a growing desire to fly eastward to something I imagined might be broader."

Although she studied ballet briefly as a child, she despised ballet as a "false and preposterous art" and instead looked to Nature for inspiration. She began to improvise her own dances, based on the images she found on classical Greek antiquities as well as on her own vivid fantasy life. Not yet twenty, she moved to Chicago and then to New York to make a name for herself. But success eluded her.

In Europe, however, after a brief period touring with Loie Fuller's dance company, Isadora's unique kind of dance ignited audiences to frenzy. She became an international sensation, appearing on stages from London to Moscow, dressed only in a tunic, barefoot, "waving (her) arms about" to her own inner voice. She founded schools and attracted followers. Hers became a new religion, based not only on dance unencumbered by formula or rule but also on a radical new way of interpreting experience.

Isadora's personal life, like her professional one, was scandalous and extraordinary. An advocate of Pagan Love, she wrote, "Men seemed so hungry for Beauty, hungry for that love which refreshes and inspires without fear or responsibility. After a performance in my tunic, with my hair crowned with roses, I was so lovely. Why should not this loveliness be enjoyed?"

Her love affairs, consequently, were numerous and legendary. She had three children out of wedlock by theatrical genius Gordon Craig and the multi-millionaire sewing machine heir, Paris Singer. All three died tragically, however, two by drowning in the Seine.

Later she married a brilliant but erratic Russian poet twenty years her junior, Sergei Esenin, who committed suicide shortly before her own death.

Despite these adversities, she remained firmly committed to her own unique vision: "For I was never able to understand... why, if one wanted to do a thing, one should not do it;" even if "this has frequently brought me disaster and calamity."

For her independence and her courage, I admire Isadora. But I also admire her for something which hits much closer to home. In an age when homosexuals

were universally despised and misunderstood, Isadora, as always, held a much more enlightened and humane attitude.

She wrote, "When I danced at the Carl Theatre in Vienna, the Grand Duke, with his suite of handsome young aides-de-camp and lieutenants, came every night to the stage box and naturally people talked. But the Duke's interest in me was aesthetic and artistic. Indeed, he seemed to shun the society of the fair sex, and was quite content with his entourage of beautiful young officers. I felt great sympathy for H.R.M. Ferdinand when I heard some years later that the Austrian Court had made a decree incarcerating him in a gloomy chateau in Salzburg. Perhaps he was a bit different from other people, but what really sympathetic person is not a little mad?"

Later, writing of a young friend in Constantinople who was madly in love with a "lovely youth of about eighteen," she said, "I have always been a student of Plato and, indeed, consider his *Phaedrus* the most exquisite love song ever written. I believe the highest love is a purely spiritual flame which is not necessarily dependent on sex."

Isadora never had homosexual affairs herself. In fact, she fled from one persistent young woman named Nursey whose affections became not only tiresome but threatening. But she was involved with gay people to some degree for much of her life, and she was always a supportive, non-judgmental friend.

Except for the time, perhaps, when, piqued by the indifference of a group of "beautiful boys in shining silk kimonos," she exerted "all my powers of seduction" and stole their leader away just to prove a point.

Granted, as a heroine, Isadora and her faults. She certainly had a healthy ego. "Now, considering that I was built rather on the lines of the Venus de Milo" is how she began one sentence in her autobiography. And she did tend to get a little carried away at times.

After refusing the sexual advances of the sculptor Rodin early in her life, she wrote, "How often I have regretted (losing) the divine chance of giving my virginity to the Great God Pan himself, to the Mighty Rodin. Surely Art and all Life would have been richer thereby!"

Nevertheless, there is a great deal more to admire in Isadora than in someone like...oh, say Nancy Reagan. I suppose, if it were necessary, I could break out a red designer dress, set the table with the best china, affect an ice-cold demeanor, and play Nancy just as easily as I play Isadora.

But really, why bother? Besides, aviator scarves and rides in convertibles (not to mention Greek tunics) are so much more fun.

An Urgent Appeal from Shanti Project

Volunteers Needed

The next Emotional Support Training will begin the weekend of July 11th, and will be continued the weekend of July 18, 1986.

To volunteer, please call Shanti Project at 558-9644.

our 350 volunteers are at near full capacity. In order to avoid a waiting list for the people we

serve, we need a minimum of sixty new volunteers for the July training.

One way to show that you care about what is happening in our community is to volunteer a few hours of your time each week at Shanti Project.

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Continued Violence on Muni

by Kevin Roe

Muni Personnel Notice-General Bulletin No. 84-14: "It is your obligation and MUNI's to provide a safe ride and give every possible assistance if passengers are being assaulted. Failure to do so can result in costly litigation."

It is true that failure to do the above could, and has, resulted in costly litigation, but more importantly, failure to do so could, and has, resulted in fear of riding the bus and bodily injury to Muni patrons.

There have been articles in the *B.A.R.*, the *Chronicle* and *Examiner*, letters from citizens, complaints to Muni, and assault reports to CUAV. Still the problem continues. We are told that nothing can be changed overnight—change takes time and money. How many nights must pass before you and I feel safe riding a bus in San Francisco? And didn't we just have the fares increased? I'm afraid the answer is many nights must pass before riding a bus in San Francisco is safe.

My lover's grandmother has been staying with us for the last week. She's 85 years old and came on the plane from Milwaukee by herself. She is one of the sweetest people I have met, and I fear for her safety. She went to work with my lover last week and they had to take the 24 Divisadero. My first thought was, would she be attacked on the bus because she's elderly and with a gay man? Would she make it to San Francisco but not back home because nothing happens overnight and change requires more money than we have already given? Would she witness her grandson being assaulted by other passengers or by the driver? My fears were strong and unfounded given a trend that we have seen this month.

The new Muni transfer policy requires drivers to collect transfers from riders when the time limit has expired. A simple procedure, but not for some. A member of our community came to CUAV last week to inform us that some drivers have refused to take transfers from men (or let them on the bus) because they think the patrons have AIDS and they, the drivers, might catch it from the paper. They yell at people with AIDS who may be too weak to jump on the bus and pass them by. They even assault people who stand up for their rights and ask to be let on the



The Muni. (Photo: Rink)

bus. Our fears are justified, as is our anger.

QUICK HITS 42 Downtown Loop

The victim alleged that he got on the bus with a transfer. The driver instructed the victim to tear off the part of the transfer that was invalid. The victim asked why, since this is a routine that only the driver is supposed to do. The driver told the victim, "You might have AIDS." The victim objected and boarded the bus anyway. The driver said, "You do what I tell you or get off the bus." The victim asked the driver what was wrong and the driver replied, "Get the hell off this bus." The driver then grabbed the victim and threw him against the bar near the front of the bus.

The victim called Muni complaints and was told by the supervisor that they would make a note of it. The victim called CUAV and Randy Schell called Muni to have the bus stopped. The police were called and went to the bus where they met the victim.

16th & Guerrero

The victim was waiting for the bus at the above corner. A Haight bus drove up and the driver opened the door. The victim boarded the empty bus and the driver said, "Asshole, can't you read the sign? Get off my bus." He repeated this three times. The victim asked what sign. The driver then pushed the victim off the bus, slammed the door, yelled "Fuck you, faggot," and drove off.

One response given by Muni management when complaining about violence on the buses is that it is not as bad as New York, Boston, or other cities back East. Maybe it's not, but that doesn't help the person who ends up in the hospital or those of us who are too afraid to ride the bus. We still worry. We still hurt. We still wonder what to do.

It is important to note that not all Muni drivers are bad. Some are exceptional and care about their passengers. I have even had one driver who called inquiring into the well-being of one of his regular passengers who had been assaulted on his bus. We applaud them, and so should you. If you see a driver who acts exceptionally well, tell Muni and tell CUAV.

If you see an incident, or are the victim of an incident on Muni report it to the police, Muni, and CUAV. By reporting the problem, it can't be ignored and we can achieve improvement. With reports, CUAV can approach Muni to work out solutions. With solutions, we can end the pain and fear and costly litigation.

If you need to report an incident, call CUAV at 864-7233, 24 hours-a-day (864-4351 tdd, M-F, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.). If you see an incident in progress, blow your whistle, call the police, demand action from the driver, and then report it to CUAV.

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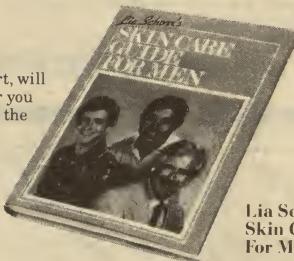
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S8090-Y118

Wayne Friday

(Continued from page 9)

ner reportedly in a snit (particularly the dinner chairperson) over my story of their dinner honoring their "guest speaker" Eldridge Cleaver (you'll get over yourselves, and remember, Harry Truman once said, "if you can't stand the heat . . .").

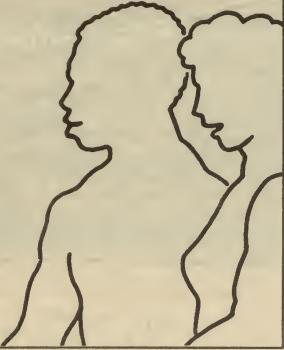
As for dinners, organizers could save a lot of time if they would stop introducing the "no-shows" (such as the recent Milk Club dinner at which a number of people snubbed but were given intros to make one think that they were sitting at the head table).

The president of the Concerned Republicans sending out a release this week confirming that their club is solidly behind the re-election of Gov. George 'I've-to' Deukmejian.

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Brian Jones



Backward Together

Oh how I do hate being the town scold. I have an informal rule that every third column I write will be in praise of something—anything. This is not merely to spare your gay nerves. If we are what we write—and all I ever do is bitch—oh dear. You get the picture.

Having said that, boy am I pissed.

This is the dumbest idea I have heard since the "Great to Be Straight Parade." Remember? That was to be a parody of the Gay Pride parade. It has sunk into the oblivion it so richly deserved. No matter. It seems our own parade will become a parody of itself this year.

I refer to the astounding fact that the gay parade will be lead this year by two straight people.

This absurdity has been billed as "historic," which indeed it is, but not in the sense intended by the parade leadership. The Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade Committee has announced that this phenomenon is historic because it is the first time straights have been invited to lead a gay parade. The problem with this fact is that it is demonstrably untrue. But that's not really my point.

Straight people leading gay people truly is historic, because throughout history, straight people have been leading us—in most case, to places we did not want to be. I'm sure you can recall your own examples.

The notion of putting straight people at the head of a gay parade is a throwback to the days when we whined and whimpered for our "liberal straight friends" to fight our battle for us. We thought we had grown beyond that but the parade committee has not. It is ironic that the parade motto is "No Turning Back"—for that is exactly what we are doing.

Just imagine Jimmy Carter at the head of a Martin Luther King, Jr. March.

We need our straight friends and it is a joy to have them with us on Gay Day. It is wrong to have them lead us.

I am reminded of the scene in the film *Gandhi*, when the Christian South African visits Gandhi in jail. Gandhi tells the man it is time to part. "It is time for Indians to learn that they can lead India," he said. The moment is sad, but necessary.

The thinking behind this idea, too, is muddled. Supposedly the notion is to symbolize straight and gay unity. If so, why not select a straight person and a gay person, who have worked together, to serve as grand marshals?

The parade committee seems to have sensed that it stepped into a bodacious pile of doggy do on this one. In an attempt to extricate itself, it named a second-string pair of Grand Marshals—who are gay. How nice. Gays in the back seat again, this time, at the behest of our own parade committee.

I'll see you at the parade June 29. I wouldn't miss it no matter who was up front. Visit me at the watermelon stand.

And Another Thing

One gets the impression that when we gay people aren't out fearlessly fighting the forces bigotry, we are busily plotting our own devious ways to discriminate against each other.

There's bias in jack-off land, I am sorry to report and it is just as ugly and cruel as bigotry anywhere else. It is doubly disappointing because here again we are consciously doing to ourselves what we ask others not to do to us.

A group called "Premier Jacks" meets weekly at the Academy, a public accommodation on Market Street of which I happen to be a—uh—member in good standing. Don't try to attend the Premier Jacks' Wednesday sessions, however, if you are over 40 years of age or otherwise fail to fit the club's "profile." The club, you see, is discriminating in its membership.

of suppressor T-cell).

The killer T-cells are responsible for destroying cells of the body which have been infiltrated by foreign invaders. They also kill cells which have gone functionally awry, like cancer cells.

For Your Health



Understanding Immunity

by Pat Christen

Your body is comprised of complex and interrelated systems designed to protect your life. Of these systems, perhaps the most intricate—and least understood—is the immune system.

Yet in order to battle acquired immune deficiency syndrome and make intelligent choices about selecting or rejecting treatments to fight the disease, you must familiarize yourself with the complexities behind immune processes.

There are four steps involved in any immune response: identification of the invader; activation of the defense "troops"; destruction of the invader; withdrawal of the troops. Each step involves the body's specialized cells programmed to create and maintain immunity: the leukocytes.

Our leukocytes, literally "white cells" are formed in the bone marrow and circulate freely in the bloodstream and lymphatic system. The lymphatic system is a network of vessels that pass certain substances like proteins and salts between the bloodstreams and the tissues of the body. At certain points along the vessels, swellings or enlargements occur. These are called nodes. Lymph nodes are strategically located in a number of places in the body, including the groin, armpit, and throat.

White cells are usually divided into two broad categories: phagocytes and lymphocytes.

The phagocytes or "cell eaters" are the garbage disposals of the immune system. They gobble up bacteria, protozoa, cells, cell debris, and other small particles no longer useful to the body.

The lymphocytes—cells of the lymph system—can be separated into two main groups: B-cell lymphocytes and T-cell lymphocytes.

B-cells originate in the bone marrow and later congregate in the lymph nodes. They are responsible for manufacturing antibodies, the tiny proteins which help incapacitate invaders. When producing antibodies, B-cells swell. It is this swelling which causes enlargement of the lymph nodes (lymphadenopathy) during times of infection.

The other type of lymphocyte, the T-cells, originate in the bone marrow but mature in the thymus, a small gland found near the heart. The "T" in T-cell stands for thymus.

There are three main types of T-cells: helper T-cells, suppressor T-cells, and killer T-cells.

Helper T-cells are often called the directors of the immune system because they orchestrate overall immune response. It is the helper T's that warn the rest of the disease fighting cells in the body that an intruder has entered the bloodstream.

Suppressor T-cells dampen or halt immune response after an infection is under control. (Killer T-cells may actually be a type

In brief, then, your immune system operates under the influence of one trillion or so white cells called leukocytes. These cells are grouped into the cell-gobbling phagocytes and the lymphocytes. The lymphocytes are further divided into B-cells and T-cells. Finally, the T-cells are grouped again and include helper T's, suppressor T's and killer T's.

How is it that these cells are able to interact with one another and confer immunity? More importantly, what causes the breakdown in their interplay which ultimately leads to the collection of diseases we know as AIDS?

The increase in helper T's stimulates an increase in the number of killer T-cells and B-cells. As the B-cells multiply, they begin manufacturing antibodies. While B-cells are producing antibodies, the killer T's seek out and destroy those cells which have already been infected with the virus.

Viruses are able to replicate only by entering a "host" cell and pirating the internal machinery of that cell. In effect, the host is converted into a virus factory. Killer T's disrupt viral reproduction by bursting the host cells harboring the virus.

As the viral invasion comes under control, the suppressor T's move to slow down and then halt the immune response. This is an essential step in establishing

(Continued on page 14)

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AmFAR Awards \$1.1M for Research

The American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR) has awarded more than \$1.1 million in scientific research grants and fellowships to AIDS researchers throughout the nation.

According to Dr. Mervyn Silverman, president of AmFAR, the 20 research grants ranged from \$50,000 to \$60,000 each. A total of \$1,162,422 is being awarded by the foundation at this time, Silverman said.

These initial research awards will be going to a diverse group of predominantly young investigators, in virtually every aspect of AIDS research, from all areas of the continental U.S., Silverman said, adding that one grant was awarded to a Canadian investigator.

Raising a Flag for the Future

The rainbow flag, which the gay community has increasingly adopted as its own emblem, is now being used as a means of raising money for organizations fighting on the frontline against AIDS.

The Flying Colors Fundraiser, a campaign backed by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Pacific Center AIDS Project, is asking members of the community, as well as heterosexual allies, to mount the flag on the doorposts of their homes as a symbol of hope for an end to the AIDS nightmare. Flags are being distributed for a \$5 donation, with proceeds divided equally between the two organizations.

On Monday May 26, prior to the Candlelight March for AIDS, nearly \$1,200 was raised by the campaign at two booths on Castro Street. Through the month of June, the fundraiser will be carried to many community groups, and flags will continue to be available in the Castro, both at street booths set up at the weekend and from Harmony & Lotus, 432 Castro.

For more information, call (415) 893-7122.

Dad

(Continued from page 5)

Patrick McCann, says the test is necessary to protect the children's health. "If he has the disease and his children catch it, what will happen to them?" he told the Associated Press. "We're not talking about sniffles, we're talking about death."

McCann said that, based on his understanding of the medical literature, Doe was likely to develop AIDS. "He has had multiple sex partners, he has been a drug user, he has contracted hepatitis-B, which in the literature is related to AIDS, and he lives in San Francisco," he told the *New York Times*.

It is not the first time an ex-wife of a gay father has tried to stop visitation rights by seeking AIDS antibody testing. In New York, two cases have come before judges who refused to require testing. In Michigan, two cases were settled out of court by an attorney who says he educated the ex-wives and their attorneys about AIDS. In a third case in Michigan, the gay father had already taken the test and had no problems revealing a negative test result.



Dr. Mervyn Silverman
(Photo: Rink)

AmFAR received a total of 147 proposals from researchers following its call for grant applications in January. Of these, 56 were deemed fundable after exhaustive peer-review and evaluation by AmFAR's Scientific Advisory Committee, which consists of many of the nation's top AIDS experts. The top 20 proposals were then selected for AmFAR's first round of grants.

"The total amount requested by all the proposals was in excess of \$8 million. We're sorry we can't fund all of them right now. We're also unhappy with the fact that these requests represent only a fraction of the research dollars needed nationwide to bring an end to the AIDS epidemic," Silverman said.

The grants will support research into such areas as epidemiology, genetics, diagnostic methods, antiviral drug development, vaccine research, and a study of ethical issues involving AIDS.

The majority of awards—14 of the 20—went to investigators at universities and university medical schools. Two grants were awarded to independent research groups in New York.

The organization hopes to review and award a second cycle of grants later this year, Silverman said.



Experts to Speak on AIDS Antibody Testing

Experts in the field of antibody testing will discuss many of the medical, legal, and social aspects of AIDS virus (LAV/HTLV3/ARV) antibody testing during upcoming forums in San Francisco.

The LAV/HTLV3/ARV Antibody testing Forums will address the most prominent and far-reaching implications of antibody testing. Topics to be covered include: Antibody Testing And Legal Issues; Who Should Take The Antibody Test And Why?; The First 10,000: A Report On The First Year Of Testing At The Alternative Test Sites In San Francisco.

According to Tim Wolfred, executive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, "Physicians, insurance companies, legislators, and participants undergoing testing are often in disagreement about the value and need for confidentiality of the test results. These forums will discuss the issues surrounding antibody testing and provide constructive options in addressing AIDS."

ing the issues at a practical level."

The AIDS antibody test is not a test for AIDS. It is a simple blood test which detects the presence of the antibody to the AIDS virus. A positive test means the antibody was found in the test sample. It does not mean a person will go on to get AIDS. Nor does it mean a person is necessarily carrying the virus any more because the test does not actually test for the AIDS virus itself. The limited information gained from the test results, and the disclosure of the results have been a topic of public debate since antibody testing began.

The forum on Sunday, June 8, will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Davies Medical Auditorium and is intended for health care professionals. This program will be repeated at a public forum on Wednesday, June 11. There is no cost for either forum. For more information, call the San Francisco AIDS Foundation hotline at 863-AIDS; TDD: 864-6606.



UPDATE '86

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INTRODUCTION

TIM WOLFRED, Ph.D.
Director, San Francisco AIDS Foundation

WILLIAM KAPLA, M.D.
President, Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights

GEORGE RUTHERFORD, M.D.
*Medical Epidemiologist, Bureau of Disease Control,
San Francisco Department of Public Health*

RON BAKER, Ph.D.
Education Consultant, San Francisco AIDS Foundation

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS / PRESENTATIONS

Who Should Consider Taking the Antibody Test and Why?

James Campbell, M.D., *Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine, UCSF; Chair, Scientific Affairs Advisory Committee, BAPHR and SFAF*

Resolving the Psychological Conflicts of Antibody Testing

Steve Morin, Ph.D., *Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine, UCSF*

The First 10,000: A Report on the First Year of Testing at the Alternative Test Sites in San Francisco

Eileen Eya, *Supervising Counselor, UCSF AIDS Health Project*

Antibody Testing and Public Policy Issues

Larry Bush, *Aide, Assemblyman Art Agnos*

Antibody Testing and Legal Issues

Benjamin Schatz, Esq., *Director, AIDS Civil Rights Project of National Gay Rights Advocates*

MATERIALS AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION AT FORUM

The Pros and Cons of the HTLV-III Antibody Test: A Position Paper. Developed by Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights and National Gay Rights Advocates (San Francisco)

AIDS Antibody Testing at Alternative Test Sites in San Francisco. Developed by San Francisco AIDS Foundation under contract to San Francisco Department of Public Health



For More Information, call
863-AIDS; TDD: 864-6606

Funding for this event provided by the
San Francisco Department of Public Health

Cleve Jones Knifed In Sacramento

by George Mendenhall

Cleve Jones, well known San Francisco gay activist, was stabbed on May 29 by two teenage males in Sacramento. He is recovering in Sacramento where he serves as a lobbyist for the Friends Committee on Legislation. He was attacked in the heavily gay-oriented section popularly known as La-vender Heights.

It was a hot night and Jones was dressed in only shorts and a T-shirt. He walked toward a corner grocery store to buy some ice cream at 11 p.m. Two teenagers—approximately 16—passed him. One called out "faggot" but Jones walked straight ahead without looking directly at them or looking backwards. However, he suddenly heard some noise and as he started to turn around one of the men shoved the blade of a knife into his back, at his right shoulder.

Jones recalls, "When I was stabbed, I saw them run down the street and disappear. I walked a block to my apartment complex and began pounding on doors for help. I was drenched in blood by then. While I was calm and cool as I applied pressure to the injured area, I just passed out from the loss of

blood". He was discovered in his courtyard by a man in the building who called an ambulance. "When I woke up I was surrounded by police and paramedics," he said.

Jones, who tested positive on the AIDS antibody test, told all of those assisting him to be careful of the blood and was surprised at the response. "I thought that telling them was the responsible thing to do even though I wondered if they would then treat me. I was pleased that they all helped me with such kindness. They gave me excellent treatment including the two days I was at the University of California Medical Center at Davis."

Doctors determined that the blade of the knife had penetrated into three inches of soft muscle tissue. An artery and a lung had been missed by less



Cleve Jones (Photo: Rink)

than an inch. After painful tests, Jones was released. He will return to his office after an undetermined recovery period.

There has not been a noticeable increase of fag bashing in the capital, according to Art McDermott of the Sacramento AIDS Foundation. He said most of the local abuse is verbal and

comes from young males coming into the Lavender Heights area to a singles disco called the Oasis Ballroom. McDermott said there had been some physical violence against gay men near the Wreck Room, a gay leather bar, in another section of town. He said straight men come into that area to go to adult bookstores.

Sacramento recently passed a comprehensive city ordinance making it unlawful to discriminate against gay people in employment, housing, and public accommodations. There is currently a petitioning effort underway to rescind the ordinance. Petitions with 18,000 signatures must be filed by June 15.

Gary Miller, chair of the Sacramento County Democratic Central Committee and a former SF gay activist, states that the petitioning effort is being run by

"religious fanatics," former state legislator Paul Gann, and council members Doug Pope and Bill Smallman. He believes they will not garner enough signatures.

Jones has been seen frequently on national television, speaking out on gay rights. He helped found the SF AIDS Foundation and served as an administrative aide to Assemblyman Art Agnos (D-SF) and to the late Supervisor Harvey Milk.

However, there have been allegations in the past month that Jones was living in Sacramento while appearing on the San Francisco ballot this week as a candidate for the Democratic County Central Committee. Jones insists that there is nothing improper because "I live in San Francisco—which is my residence, my home. I am only here temporarily."

cell/antibody sprinkler system in the presence of a fire (the AIDS virus). If the detector is faulty or removed completely, the sprinkler will never be turned on, even though it is in working order, and the fire will be left free to rage. In AIDS, T-cells are no longer able to sound the alarm, and the virus is left to destroy the immune system.

Remember too, if killer T's are activated, they are programmed to destroy any cells which harbor the virus, in this case the helper T's. This confounds matters by further depleting the supply of immune system directors.

Before selecting or rejecting any treatment for AIDS, consider the nature of your viral foe carefully. Familiarity with the function and processes of the immune system can only help in making intelligent decisions.

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For Your Health

(Continued from page 12)

ing immunity. A continually activated immune system would eventually lead the body to turn against itself, destroying "non-self" and "self" particles alike.

Finally, special T-cells and B-cells, known as "memory cells", will be left behind to memorize the particular viral antigens which led to infection in the first place. Should that virus ever appear again, the memory cells will move to destroy it immediately. Immunity is conferred.

There are two insidious characteristics of the HTLV-3 AIDS virus which render our bodies defenseless against it.

First, the virus selectively invades helper T's—the commanders of immune response. As the helper T's come under attack, immune response diminishes because the rest of the disease fighting cells are not notified that infection has occurred. There is no longer anything in charge of communicating with the cells to tell them that an invasion has taken place.

Second, even though the B-cells can be activated into producing antibodies, the antibodies are not able to attach themselves properly to HTLV-3—they cannot neutralize the virus.

Left unneutralized, the virus is free to infect and destroy more T-cells, even though antibodies are present.

Think of helper T's as a smoke detector in your home designed to set off the B-

Gay Jews Declare Refugee Sanctuary

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav joined over 250 other American religious communities in declaring itself a sanctuary for Central American refugees.

The congregation adopted a Covenant of Sanctuary at its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, May 4. The Covenant expresses concern for the plight of Guatemalan and El Salvadoran refugees fleeing from persecution in their homeland, many of whom have been unfairly denied haven in this country.

Responding to a November 1985 resolution of the General Assembly of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations which called for a "moral response from us as Jews" and conscious of the silence of others to the plight of Jews during the Holocaust, the Covenant was strongly endorsed by the membership present at the meeting. The Covenant commits the congregation to working "within the legal system to assist these refugees, even as we commit ourselves to support efforts to overturn the (Reagan) Administration's interpretation and application of existing law."

In its statement on sanctuary, Sha'ar Zahav said, "As Jews, our history, from Egypt through the Holocaust and continuing today, is the story of people forced time and again to flee the lands in which we have resided. The horrors of the Holocaust, when Jews were murdered because we were 'undesirable' in the eyes of the Nazis, are indelibly imprinted on our psyches. Repelled often in times of greatest need, we as Jews recognize the necessity of havens for the persecuted."

"As lesbian and gay Jews, we are particularly sensitive as well to U.S. immigration laws or interpretation of laws which limit

individual freedoms and discriminate against certain groups."

The statement also cited the words of the Torah that "have given us a profound empathy for the plight of all exiled, homeless or oppressed peoples."

The congregation's goals include: networking with other religious groups; encouraging interested members to work towards reform of, and fair implementation of, existing United States immigration law; and raise funds to contribute to a revolving bond for currently incarcerated refugees, so that they may pursue legal remedies for asylum.

The Covenant was passed following six months of study and discussion initiated by the congregation's social action committee.

Rabbi Yoel Kahn said, "Most compelling for the members of Sha'ar Zahav were the lessons of the Holocaust. When others' lives are threatened and they turn to us for assistance, we cannot stand idly by."

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, founded in 1977, is a synagogue of over 250 members with a special out-reach to gay and lesbian Jews. Sha'ar Zahav is a member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

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L.A. County Moves Against Baths

Health Dept. Goes to Court to Demand Compliance on Patron Monitoring

by George Mendenhall

Four Los Angeles bathhouses have been charged in Superior Court with non-compliance in enforcing safe sex. Midtown Spa, Melrose Baths, The Compound, and The Meattrack have been charged with not adequately monitoring unsafe sex practices. The owners of two bathhouses are in open defiance and intend to challenge the county Health Services Department regulations in court.

The county's lawsuit does not demand closure but asks for a court injunction to force compliance. Midtown Spa and Melrose Baths insist that compliance is an infringement on the right of privacy by its patrons.

It is alleged that the four bathhouses refuse to expel patrons who engage in high-risk sexual activity, do not keep logs on those who are expelled, will not post signs warning patrons of unsafe sex practices, and have private areas where patrons may engage in sexual activity without surveillance.

Midtown Spa and Melrose Baths contend that they post safe sex signs, have AIDS literature, and distribute prophylactics. Although the businesses claim they monitor sexual activity, it is not possible for them to fully observe patrons because they have private rooms with doors that can be locked from within.

"The issue is what we have to comply with," states Barrett Litt, attorney for the two baths. "The regulations say we cannot knowingly allow unsafe sex. We claim we are in compliance. Monitors do check the premises. We have not taken the doors off the rooms. We believe that to go further than that would be an infringement on the privacy of the patrons."

The requested injunction would be against only four of the estimated 13 gay businesses that have some sexual activity. The court action was filed after health inspectors, identified and in plainclothes, made inspections of the premises.

Atty. Litt said, "We do not have to force patrons to do things. The measures that they are calling for will not prevent AIDS and have no medical or scientific basis. They are asking us to intrude on the privacy of people."

Sam Steward Speaks At History Society

Noted author Samuel M. Steward will visit the next San Francisco Bay Area Gay and Lesbian Historical Society meeting on Father's Day, Sunday, June 15, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the San Francisco Women's Building, 3543 18th Street, San Francisco. Admission to An Evening With Sam Steward will be free to Historical Society members, \$5 for the general public.

Steward is a fascinating storyteller. His talks are filled with sparkling autobiographical anecdotes and rich in gay and lesbian history. In his autobiography, Steward recalls his turn-of-the-century boyhood in Ohio, and his subsequent career as a college professor and literary gadfly. He was befriended by

Gertrude Stein and Alice Toklas, and bedded by Alfred Lord Douglas and Thornton Wilder.

He left academia to become "Phil Sparrow," tattoo artist and "unofficial collaborator" with Dr. Alfred Kinsey. At the same time he began writing under the name "Phil Andros." He is the author of *Chapters From an Autobiography* (Grey Fox) and *Murder is Murder is Murder* (Alyson). His letters from Gertrude Stein were published in 1977 under the title *Dear Samy* (Houghton-Mifflin). His Phil Andros stories have been reprinted by Perineum Press.

The San Francisco Bay Area Gay and Lesbian Historical Society is a community-based educational organization. Membership is open to all.

'The regulations say we cannot knowingly allow unsafe sex. We claim we are in compliance. Monitors do check the premises.'

—Barrett Litt,
attorney for Midtown
Spa and Melrose Baths

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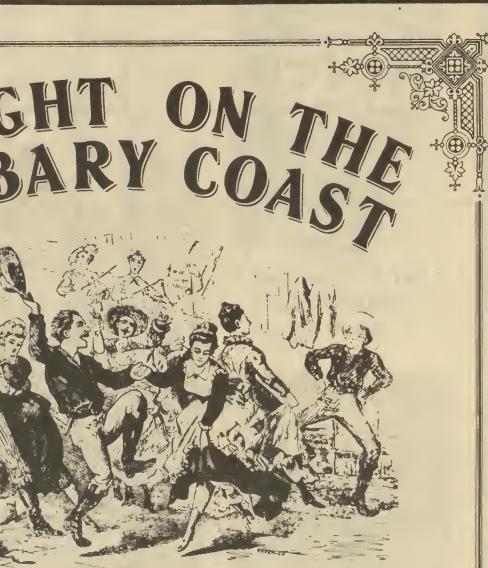
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BAY AREA REPORTER JUNE 5, 1986 PAGE 15

Acquittal

(Continued from page 2)

was arrested, was sperm, while another had testified that it could have been saliva.

The story of Park Patrol officer Ted Howard apparently changed in regard to the woman he had said had approached him at the edge of the park and, pointing to a rest room, had told him a man had attacked her there. According to the acquitted man, Howard couldn't identify the woman although she was supposed to have come within

two feet of him. "And the story of the torn blouse turned into one about a green jumpsuit. There were so many contradictions in his story," he said.

The contradictions in Howard's story were used by Adachi in his closing argument to the jury. In reference to the charge that the gay man had been holding his penis when Howard approached him and before he was handcuffed, Adachi wanted to know, "Where's the beef?" (Howard had never explained who put the acquitted man's penis away before he was handcuffed.)

"I think the evidence showed that Howard was lying and beat

the heck out of [my client]," said Adachi. We produced medical evidence that showed someone had beat him up."

"I want charges brought," said the acquitted man, "and I may also proceed against Officers Corriea and Ramlin because the statements they made to me were horrible when I was in their custody [immediately after he was arrested]. One said, 'You deserve to have AIDS, it's God's punishment to you,' and 'If you're giving blow jobs in the park you deserve to die'" he said.

"And Ramlin slammed the car door on my legs. At the trial Corriea testified that he had put

me in the car."

The gay man said that his health had held up under the stress of the trial and added that he was the wrong person to have been arrested on a false charge. He had refused to plea bargain for a reduced sentence while on trial, he said. He intends to do what he can to see that the same thing doesn't happen to someone else."

DEATHS

Marion Saltman

Marion Saltman, play therapist, peace advocate, and long-time Sausalito resident, died peacefully on May 30 at 1:35 p.m., surrounded by a rainbow of flowers, a colorful mandala banner and the love of friends and family.



Many will recall the play sessions, workshops, and parties hosted by Marion aboard the SS Vallejo over the years and her struggle for the historic preservation of that vessel. In her last months she devoted her attention to the needs of terminally ill persons and the Commonweal Program in Bolinas where alternative self-healing resources are being explored.

Marion, you've taught us to laugh and embrace the spirit of childhood that we all too often lose as adults. You've shared our visions of peace,

Come celebrate Marion with us on Sunday, June 8 at 7:30 p.m. Location: Unitarian Fellowship, 240 Channing Way, San Rafael. Call Al at 821-7570 if you need further information or directions.

David Poole



Loved by many, cherished by some, this pianist, born in 1936 at noon on the cusp of Aquarius and Pisces, celebrated death and Transfiguration on the birthday of Brahms and Tchaikovsky at Alta Bates Hospital in Berkeley.

"David, you are The GIFT."

David was originally diagnosed with tuberculosis seven months ago. This disease was recently complicated by a host of opportunistic invaders.

Donations may be made in his memory to the American Lung Association or any AIDS project.

Joe Avella

Friar Joe Avella, a Franciscan priest in New York state, left the Franciscans and moved to San Francisco in the 1970's. Little by little he became active as a lay person in the Castro's Most Holy Redeemer church.

Joe developed AIDS—the lesions of Kaposi's sarcoma were visible to all on his face. He was the most outspoken parishioner of MHR to have AIDS, and Joe was beloved by many people in the parish, most especially, perhaps, Marie Kristofiah, a grandmother who is devoting her life to the care of persons with AIDS.

In 1985, knowing that Joe was sick, the New York Franciscans invited him back home, and he returned in early 1986. Joe died Friday morning, May 30.

There will be a memorial Mass for Joe Avella at 11 a.m., Saturday, June 7 at Most Holy Redeemer. We love you, Joe, and we are glad that you have found peace from your pain at last.

Bob Fritch

Bob "Kilowat" Fritch died Thursday, May 22 of a heart attack at a local San Francisco hospital. He was 51. Bob was known by many of his friends as Kilowat, which was also the name of a maintenance business he operated for many years here in the Bay Area. Bob was also the resident manager of the 200 Van Ness Apartments.

It was Kilowat's wish to be cremated, and his remains were scattered in the Pacific. All who knew him, knew the love he had for animals. Any donations can be made in his name to the local SPCA.

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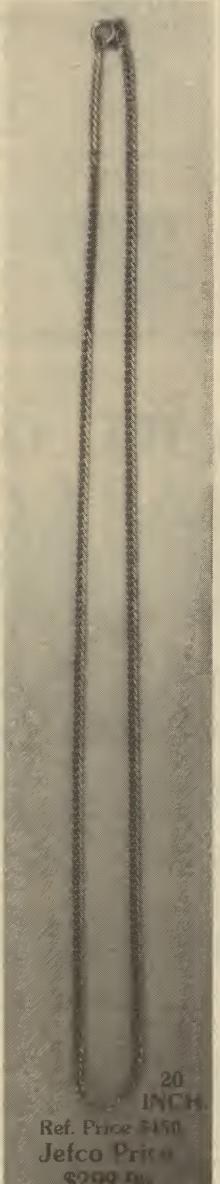
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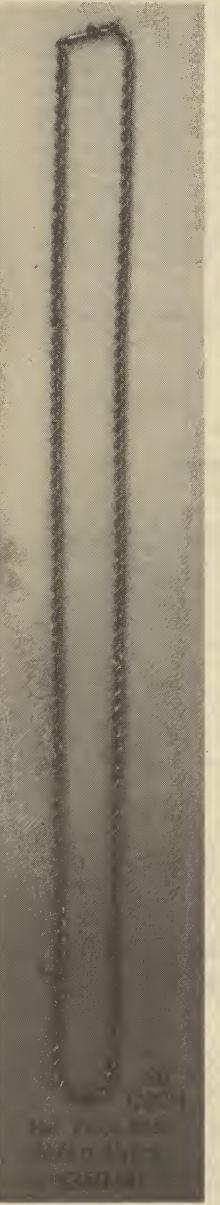
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DEATHS

Dennis Spigelmyre

To share love is life! Dennis Spigelmyre passed away peacefully, at 34 years of age, in Scottsdale, AZ, after his brave fight with the same illness that had claimed so many other brave people before him.

 Dennis and his lover Bob, moved from Phoenix to San Francisco in February of 1984 and Dennis participated in many AIDS projects, even after his diagnosis in December of that same year.

How to be brave, and continue our unselfish love, in the face of these things, is something we must all learn for ourselves.

Dennis entered into rest surrounded by his lover, family, and friends, on May 20. A bright spark of life gone for now, but never forgotten if we only have love!

Rest dear Dennis until we are together again . . . our love still lives!

Robert Clark

Robert W. Clark, 47, on May 20 after a brief AIDS related illness. A Bay Area native, Bob was employed by Zack Electronics in the accounting division. Mother, as Bob was known affectionately by his friends, will be remembered for the free spirited approach and joy of being that typified his life.

 His care and concern for his gay brothers will be a great loss to all who knew Mother. We can take solace in the thought that he is reunited with Bob Parham and that the two of them are once again raising hell and laughing uproariously. Memorial services were held on May 24 at St. Ignatius and his remains were cremated as Bob wished. Memorial contributions to Rita Rockett's brunches would be appreciated.

For information contact Bruce Streetman, 5550 Calhoun Ave., Van Nuys, Ca 91401, (818) 781-4291.

Doug Tuttle

Doug was a Southern boy. When he said "Hi, Honey" in his long drawn out way, even the darkest corners seemed less frightening. He loved the outdoors and the play of sunlight on snow.

 Now he has found new mountains to climb. At this moment it's easy to visualize Doug skiing down the slope of a huge cloud. He also loved good times and laughed even when he was in pain. When friends were diagnosed, he brightened their rooms with the warmth of his smile.

Doug succumbed to PCP, and left us on the night of May 29. He is traveling with the love and good wishes of his twin Donald, his older brother Ken, his mother Anne, and all of us whose lives he has touched.

There will be a small and private service in the mountains, where his ashes will be bonded to the world he loved so much. His greatest memorial will be that which is held in the heart of the lives he touched.

All memorial donations are requested to be sent to Shanti Project, Fun Squad, 890 Hayes, S.F. 94117.

For friends who would like to share in a pot luck and fun evening, call Randy, 864-4766 or Christian at 931-7783.

Gary Noss

With a great deal of sadness we must say farewell to our good friend, Gary Noss. He returned to the universe on Saturday morning, May 31. Near him in his last moments were his daughters Marty and Sarah, and his roommate Justin.



Gary spent years as a tour agent and escort when he led tours to the Orient, South Pacific, and Europe. We will all miss his travel and restaurant reviews along with his wit and warmth. Many people will remember his sense of humor and kind words for all. Among his life's accomplishments were memberships on the Santa Fe Opera Board, Sigma Chi Fraternity, Masonic Order, and, locally, the California Motorcycle Club.

We all miss you and hope that you find always the deck chair in the sun. Bon Voyage, dear friend.

Bruce Harris

Bruce Campbell Harris, 34, well-known and beloved for his inspiring, optimistic, and selfless work for the community, died in his home Friday, May 23, of complications from pneumocystis.

His life will serve as an enduring example of how much can be accomplished with a constructive and positive approach to life's challenges. Most recently, the example he set in his affiliation with the GGBA Foundation prompted the foundation to establish its annual Sweet Charity award, with the inaugural presentation acknowledging his numerous contributions to gay and lesbian human services through his work first as development director and later as a member of the board of the foundation.

During his 11 years in San Francisco, Harris served as a co-chairman of the Gay Freedom Day Parade, was active in the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club, and initiated a major raffle as part of expanded fundraising activities involved with the GGBA's Twenty-Two on the Red.

Professionally, he developed a successful career in financial management with Motorola and The Headquarters Companies, which he combined with his appreciation for the arts community to become the associate marketing and media relations manager of the San Francisco Ballet.

He is survived by his father Donald, mother Jean, and sister Sharon Corbett of Richmond, Va., and his brother William of New York, and his lover William Gerard who cared for him faithfully throughout the long and courageous battle.

Special appreciation is extended by the family to Christine Warden, Peggy McElligott, Kitsy Shoen, Robert Curiel, Charles Barrett, Anita Rodero, and Sue McDermott.

A Memorial Service was held on Tuesday, May 27 at Old St. Mary's church.

Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to San Francisco Ballet Association Endowment Foundation, Coming Home Hospice, and the GGBA Foundation.

Archie Loren Webb

Archie passed away peacefully on May 19, at the University of Colorado Hospital, Denver, after a five month battle with cancer. The day before, he was with family and friends to celebrate his 35th birthday.

Archie was born in Bloomington, Ill., and attended high school and college in the Denver area. He had lived in California for 15 years, specializing in light and sound systems and techniques, and had traveled to Europe and South America in this field. He recently left San Francisco to return

to Denver to assist in a family business.

He is survived by his parents, Archie and Ruby Webb, and his brother, Larry.

Lawrence Heinemann

Lawrence W. Heinemann, 36, died May 27, after fighting pneumocystis and K.S. for two years. Originally from Chicago, a graduate of Antioch College, Ohio, Larry lived in San Francisco for 15 years and worked in administration at Langley Porter for seven years.

Those who got to know Larry came to love him. He was bright and stimulating, always having a quick remark and eager to share his sense of humor, his well-formed thoughts, and his dry, often sarcastic interpretations of life. We will remember that he was always there, attentive, for us and we will miss the smiles and warmth he brought to our hearts in his special way.

A memorial service held on Mt. Tamalpais last Sunday brought together his many friends and his family: parents Mona and Bill Heinemann of Chicago, his sister Ellen of Washington, and his brothers Mike and Ken of Louisiana and Chicago.

His closest friend Pamela Erikson asks that memorial contributions be sent to The Family Link, 3743 Army St., S.F. 94110, or to S.F. AIDS Foundation, 333 Valencia, S.F. 94103.

Mary Margaret Chastain

On Thursday, May 29, Mary Margaret Chastain, our Mother, passed away quietly of heart failure. She was doing what she enjoyed most, playing with the computer. She is survived by her mother, and her five sons, three of whom are gay. All of the people who know us, knew her, and called her "Mom" also, for she was a Mother to us all, but most of all she was our friend. Goodbye, Mother, we shall miss you.

Donald R. Saglin

Our beloved friend, Don Saglin, died May 28, exactly one month after his 46th birthday. Don had battled AIDS for nearly one year. He lived in California virtually all his life, the last eight years in San Francisco. A veteran of the Coast Guard, Don worked in the Bay Area as both a real estate agent and as a paralegal. He is survived by his loving mother and brothers, Elizabeth, Dennis and Doug, all of Southern California.

Don was a kindly, fair, dynamic man of modesty and vision, who, with intense human and spiritual sensitivity involved himself with telling influence on the lives of his family and friends.

He will remain in our hearts and minds as he was in life—a vital, bright, articulate, and witty, loving man. With a natural charm, gentility, and elan, his exuberance and wisdom deeply enriched the lives of those fortunate enough to know him. Don, your actual presence will be deeply missed, but the richness we gained from knowing you will nurture us throughout our lives.

Don's ashes have been put to sea.

For further information call James at

864-3609 or Marc at 550-8931. Donations may be made to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

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David Treadwell and Frank O'Reilly of the Billy DeFrank Community Center in San Jose
(Photo: D. James)

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S.J. Gay Center Gets New Home

by Dot James

After more than five years in the same location, the Billy DeFrank Community Center in San Jose relocated to 1040 Park Blvd. on May 30.

"There will be no break in service," stated David Treadwell, the center's executive director. "When we close the doors at the old center on Keyes St. Thursday night, we'll be reopening Friday with the telephones already installed and everything in place."

Treadwell's primary goal, when he took administrative charge of the all-volunteer organization a year ago, was to move the center to a larger facility.

"Our present location is only 1,200 square feet, and we outgrew it almost immediately," Treadwell stated. "We've been looking for a new space for about three years because we can't accommodate large groups or even as many groups as we'd like to. The problem has always been money. It still is; the new building is almost 5,000 square feet but at twice the rent!"

The center will retain its present name, but will add "of Santa Clara County." The name, Billy DeFrank Community Center, was selected in 1981 through a "quarter-a-vote" contest and memorializes a San Jose/Oakland black entertainer who died of a heart attack at the age of 41 six months before the center opened.

Over the years some discontent about the name has been expressed by members of the South Bay gay community. Some feel the center's name should include *lesbian and gay*. Others, especially lesbian separatists, have not been happy that the center was named for a gay man. Still others are displeased that the center is named for a drag queen, believing that is too flamboyant an image for the majority of the gay residents of Santa Clara County.

Treadwell responded to that criticism by stating that "the

are for referrals. Lots are from people just coming out who need someone to talk to. Often someone who volunteers to work for the center tells us that his or her first contact with gay life was picking up the telephone and calling here."

The center is almost wholly supported by donations, excepting a grant two years ago from San Francisco's Golden Gate Business Association. O'Reilly believes the center will continue to meet its expenses, including the increased rent, primarily through contributions from individuals.

"We feel that if we're providing a useful and needed service, the community will want to support us," he stated.

"I think people will feel really good about the community center in its new location," Treadwell added. "It's a better building in a much better location. We hope to attract more volunteers so that we can be open longer hours. And we hope that some community group will be renting space here every night of the month."

SisterSpirit, a nonprofit organization attempting to establish a women's building in San Jose eventually, has already reserved space for its bookstore in the new center and will be holding its Friday Night Coffee House there. The center was formerly occupied by the gay-owned San Jose Ballroom and Dance Centre, so the facility includes a vast area with a ballroom floor for rent to groups sponsoring dances.

The center's Grand Opening is scheduled for the afternoon of Saturday, June 21, as a kick-off event for the San Jose Gay Pride Rally the next day.



EAST BAY MY WAY

Fleas and Royalties

PASSIVE PULEX PASAR (A "Same Old Faces" Nose?)

"Well, it certainly beats last year's picnic!" just about sums up the general feelings of the overseers of the next-to-last "hurrah" of the Oakland Parade Contingent.

Cheree's Flea Market last Sunday wasn't exactly what one could call a resounding success—at least up until the time I had to vacate the premises. "This area isn't big on foot traffic on a Saturday afternoon" was the obvious general consensus. Only a trinkling of neighborhood vendees contemplated the curious, save for one "professional" flea market vendor who purchased \$35 worth of the vendables.

And, as usual, the same people were there offering moral support and even making a few purchases. I can't be convinced that sooo many of the "community" have to work on Saturday!

Kudos to Rick, PeeWee, Bill, Ron, David M., David F., Mama Manuel, entertainer Terry, Little Mother, John, and two women whose names escape me. Believe me, the OPC appreciated your being there.

Orchids to the proverbial Marge and Terry, Phil, Richard, Al (doing the hot dogs!), and, of course, Cheree. Although patrons were minimal, the propensity was maximum. Much credit must be given to the OPC. Each one of the "kingpins" has staunchly supported every event. They all believe in another "winner" even though it seems that

quite a few can't yet quite understand the simple principle of all the hard work and support necessary prior to a celebration.

The grand total raised at this event was \$336. Methinks that Fred's tempting dumpster was the recipient of lots of the unsold paraphernalia!

Any takers on a bet as to just how many absentees at the fund-raisers show up to be counted on Parade day?

The grand finale function, preceding the promenade, will be held Saturday evening, June 14, on the patio of the Paradise. The big barbecue dinner/entertainment/just plain fun evening will culminate the current series of money-raising events. After this date, all energies will be channeled into the actual construction of the float itself.

You can bet your biffy that Terry and Marge will be aiding and abetting every inch of the construction, too! Tickets are available at the five supporting bars (Lancers, Lake Lounge, Paradise, Revol, and Town and Country) for \$7.50 each. The ticket stub makes the purchaser eligible in the drawing for 100 lottery tickets. In order to know just how many steaks to grill, all unsold tickets will be picked up on Monday, June 9. Buy now and don't be among the disappointed.

Also that evening, the drawing for the Bar In A Barrel will be held. The winner need not be present to claim the prize, but it would be nice if he/she were!



Cheree's Flea Market

(Photo: Nez)

STENO-GENETRIX' ROUP ("And sold to number" Nose?)

In Memory Of functions can, at times, turn into quite mauldin events. But knowing that Starr wouldn't want such tearfulness, Little Mother's auction in her memory at the Town and Country last Sunday proved to be a real "lease breaker"! Starr would have been proud indeed.

Some of the highlights were:

- 1) Guest auctioneers Ralph, Carol, Big Chuck, Lady Lennie, Cheree, Steve Craig, Paul M., and Salmonila.

2) Spirited bidding over antique egg between Val Sousa, Emp. V Don, and yours truly. Val won at \$120.

3) Anonymous donation of \$200 to the cause. She didn't want her name known.

4) \$1,000 bid from Carol Hunter for framed picture of David and Starr (the highest bid ever in an East Bay auction).

5) \$50 donation from Phil G. in Lancers' behalf.

6) Sam's chili for everyone after the auction.

7) All the bidders, payers, participants, and assistants who worked very hard for five hours non-stop.

Some of the belittlements included:

1) Conternation about the pre-arranged \$1,000 cashier's check.

2) Lambastion in public

about a non-participating Oakland bar, and no auctions would be held there.

3) The only royalty to appear were Empress Suzie, Emperor V Don, and Emperor VII Doug.

4) Lack of support from the current reigning royalty. Why are they so "unseen" at these functions?

The concluding last "bang" of the hammer resulted in a tally of \$2,712, which will be divided equally between the Fairmont Hospital Canteen Fund and the East Bay Assistance Fund.

HOTCHPOTCH & MELANGE (A Ragout Nose?)

Fred's "donation" spaghetti (note the spelling, Jim!) feeds continue at the Paradise through June, on these Tuesdays: 3, 10, 17, and 24. Proceeds go to Fairmount Hospital Canteen Fund.

Reno, Nevada's coronation is Saturday, June 7.

Colorado Springs' coronation is Saturday, June 21.

Omaha, Nebraska's coronation is Saturday, June 21.

Revol's fantastic luau is the following Sunday, June 22, beginning at 4 p.m. Dressing like a tourist is the rule of the afternoon!

The Turf Club will kick off a week long festival for Gay Freedom Week Sunday, June 22.

If you're going on vacation soon, take half as much clothing and twice as much money! I get no vacation! Dast I smile? Love, Nez

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FRIDAY 6

- **Women Meeting Women:** Lesbians only. 8 PM-12 Midnight. Come and meet new friends. Good food, music, and good conversations. Sit-down games available. Call 864-0876 for details.
- **Lightning Strikes:** Fire Wimmin Kathleen Graham and Reba Rose present an electric evening of mime, dance, sign and theatre. Studio Eremos, 401 Alabama (at 17th St.) in Project Artaud, 8 PM, \$7 or donation (group rates available). Interpreted for the deaf by Mary Alsop. Call 524-4041 for details. Wheelchair accessible.
- **The Committee to Preserve Our Sexual and Civil Liberties:** monthly meeting, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 863-5428 for details.
- **Becky Reardon and Judy Munson:** music, Mama Bear's, Oakland, 8:30 PM (Women only). Call 420-0560 for details.
- **Great Outdoors San Francisco:** Grand Canyon Backpack. Call (619) 277-2867 for details.
- **Aldo Antonio Bell:** cabaret, Buckley's, 131 Gough St., S.F., \$6 cover (plus 2-drink minimum), \$4 dinner guest cover. "A Whole Lot of Bessie In Me."
- **Fiddler on the Roof:** stage presentation, River Repertory Theater, Jenner Playhouse (behind gas station and store), on the coast, Hwy. 1, 20 minutes west of Guerneville via 116, 8 PM, \$6. Call (707) 865-2905 for details.
- **Tom Ammiano's 'Wrists':** The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$8. Call 861-5079 for reservations.
- **Women's Drop-In Space:** conversation and caring, 1615 Polk St., upstairs, S.F., 7-9 PM, every Friday.

SATURDAY 7

- **Lightning Strikes:** Mime, dance, sign, and theatre for women (See Friday for details).
- **Us Girls International:** dance party, Firehouse 7 (16th Note), 3160 16th St., S.F., 9 PM-2 AM, \$4 cover. This is a dance party for women and their friends and will feature funk, reggae, salsa, calypso, and political rap.
- **Nina Glaser and Agnes Halpern:** photography reception, Hatley-Martin Gallery, 41 Powell St., S.F., 6:30-9:30 PM. Call 392-1015 for details.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** card/board game fest, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM.
- **Ted Coconis-A Retrospective:** artist's reception, Minx Gallery, 64 Gough St., S.F., 6:30-9:30 PM.
- **American Baptists Concerned:** fundraising event, Barnett Hall, Lakeshore Ave. Baptist Church, 3534 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 8 PM. Turtles on Parade: An Evening of Music and Dessert. Funds will be raised for advocacy work in gay rights, AIDS education, and in ministry with the lesbian and gay community. Call 841-4269 for details.
- **Monica Palacios and Destiny:** comedy, Hotel Utah, 500 4th and Bryant, S.F., 9 PM, \$2. Call 777-3411 or 421-8308 for reservations.
- **Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee:** youth subcommittee meeting, Parade Committee office, upstairs in back of building, 1519 Mission and 11th Sts., S.F., 2 PM. Call 861-5404 for details.
- **East Bay Front Runners:** run at Lake Merritt. Meet at corner of 14th St. and Oak St. near Cameron Stanford House, Flat 3-mile loop, 9:30 AM. Call 526-3506 or 261-3246 for details.
- **Different Spokes Bicycle Club:** Oakville Grade Special, meets at Redwood Springs Shopping Plaza in Napa at 10 AM. Hilly terrain and a moderate pace for 45 miles. Call 864-2778 for details.
- **Fiddler on the Roof:** stage presentation, River Repertory Theater, Jenner Playhouse (see Friday for details).
- **Weslia Whitfield:** cabaret, Buckley's, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, cover.
- **Writing Workshop:** for women 60 and older, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 12 noon. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders, call 626-7000 for more information.
- **Tom Ammiano's 'Wrists':** (see Friday for details).

SUNDAY 8

- **Integrity/San Francisco Bay Area:** Eucharist for the Community, all welcome. Inclusive language, St. John's, 1661 15th St. (btwn. Mission & Valencia), S.F., 16th St. BART or 14 Mission bus, 5:30 PM. For gay and lesbian Episcopalians and friends. Call 775-6799 or 552-4579 for details.
- **Lightning Strikes:** Mime, dance, sign, and theatre for women (See Friday for details).



Weslia Whitfield plays Buckley's every Saturday
(Photo: Rink)

WEEK



Becky Reardon and Judy Munson play Mama Bear's June 6

MONDAY 9

- Operation Concern: Friendly visitors meeting for GLOE, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7-8:30 PM. Topic will be medication and substance abuse among older lesbian and gay persons. Call 626-7000 for details.
- Tom Ammiano: Benefit for KPFA, The Other Cafe, 100 Cole St., S.F., 9 PM.
- Mapenzi: concert, Domaine Chandon Winery, off Hwy. 29 on California Drive, Yountville, 7:30-9:30 PM (Gates open at 7 PM). A fusion of African, Jamaican, and Trinidadian dance rhythms with contemporary rock. Call (707) 944-2280 for details.
- Pacific Center AIDS Project: support group for health care workers in the AIDS Epidemic, Lakeshore Ave. Baptist Church, 3534 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 6-8 PM. Meets every Monday.
- Western Star Dancers: new dancing class, males and females welcome for this continuous Monday class by this S.F. gay square dance club. Call 621-5631 or 621-3990 for more information and location.
- Support Groups for PWA and those concerned about AIDS: ongoing meeting, Kaiser Foundation Hospital, 2425 Geary Blvd., 3:30-4:45 PM. The meetings will be held in Conference Room B on the fifth floor. Call 929-4186 for details.

TUESDAY 10

- The Gay Cable Network: gay TV on Cable 6, 9-10 PM. Pride and Progress takes a look at community news and views. In "The Right Stuff," Doris and Tippi have something cooked up, but they won't say what it is.
- Operation Concern: Housing for lesbian and gay seniors, an educational forum sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 1-2:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for details.
- Gwen Avery: music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM.
- Radical Women: dinner and meeting, 523-A Valencia St., S.F., dinner at 6:45 PM (donation requested), meeting at 7:30 PM. A discussion about the impending forced relocation of the Diné and Hopi peoples from their land in Big Mountain, AZ, and of the militant battle to defend their land and sovereignty. Call 864-1278 or 550-1020 for details.
- Slightly Older Lesbians: meeting, Billy De Frank Lesbian/Gay Community Center of Santa Clara County, 86 Keyes St., San Jose, 7-9 PM. Call (408) 265-0416 for details.
- BurLezk: erotic dance show for women, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5.
- Pacific Center AIDS Project: People with AIDS/ARC Support Group and Lovers, Friends and Family of People with AIDS/ARC, 6-8 PM. Call 420-8181 for details.

WEDNESDAY 11

- Meditation and Healing Circle: meeting, Haight-Ashbury Community Center, Park Branch Library, 1833 Page St., S.F., 7:30 p.m. Call 864-5483 for details.
- Gay International Folk Dancing: for lesbians and gay men, Eureka Valley Recreation Center, Collingwood Park, S.F., teaching 7:30-8 PM, request dancing 8-9:30 PM, \$2.50. Call 585-9784 or 552-8413 for details.
- San Francisco Intergenerational Program: prose and play-writing workshop for beginners and advanced students. Call 431-6254 for more details.
- San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band: practice, every Tuesday, Pacific Ballet Center, 11th St. and Mission, S.F. Interested? Call the Bandfone, 621-5619.
- Gay-Nite: Rollergarden, 15721 East 14th St., San Leandro, 7:30 PM-Midnight.
- The Temescal Gay Men's Chorus: rehearsal, Trinity Hall, 2320 Dana (at Durant), Berkeley, 7 PM. For details, call 465-7388 or 655-3825.

THURSDAY 12

- Faith Winthrop: cabaret, Buckley's, 131 Gough St., S.F., \$6 cover (with 2-drink minimum), \$4 dinner guest cover.
- Ain't Nobody's Business: Gays in the Harlem Renaissance: historic slide show with gay historian Eric Garber, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$3-5 sliding scale. Call 282-9246 for details.
- The Endup: free spaghetti feed, 6th and Harrison, 8-10 PM.
- Black and White Men Together: write your own personal ad, 1350 Waller St. (near Masonic), S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 821-6296 for details.
- Bonnie Hayes: music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 PM, free.
- Men's Support Group: meeting, Billy De Frank Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 86 Keyes St., San Jose, 7 PM.
- Fiddler on the Roof: stage presentation, River Repertory Theater, Jenner Playhouse (see Friday for details).
- Coming Home Hospice Bingo: Bingo Night, Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St., S.F., 6 PM. All proceeds to benefit the Coming Home Hospice.



SUMMER FUN BOWLING LEAGUES at Japantown Bowl

Monday Community League

The most established Gay Bowling League in San Francisco. This league has been bowling for over 20 years. League starts on June 16, bowls at 8:45 pm, costs \$8.50 per week and is 80% handicap. 5 bowlers to a team.

Tuesday Community League

Perhaps the most fun league in the city. This league is more for the bowler who wants to meet new friends and have a fun night out at a low cost. League starts on June 17, bowls at 8:45pm, costs \$8.50 per week and is 90% handicap. 5 bowlers to a team.

Wednesday Community League

This is the largest Gay league at Japantown Bowl, presently 20 teams. This league fills up fast so don't delay. League starts on June 18, bowls at 8:45pm, costs \$8.00 per week and is 80% handicap. 5 bowlers to a team.

Thursday Community League

Great league for Bartenders and other night workers. This is the only weekday afternoon Gay league in the City. League starts on June 12, bowls at 1:00pm, costs \$6.00 per week and is 90% handicap. 3 bowlers to a team.

Hawaii Vacation League

THIS IS THE LEAGUE WHERE EVERYONE GOES TO HAWAII AT THE END OF THE SEASON. Hawaii trip will be in March of 1987. If you would like to go to Hawaii with 50 friends, this is the league for you. League starts on June 13, bowls at 6:30pm on Fridays, costs \$17.50 per week (this includes the trip to Hawaii) and is 80% handicap. 3 bowlers to a team.

Sunday Reno League

Everyone in this league will go to Reno for a weekend at the end of the season. The trips are always loads of fun. League starts on June 23, bowls at 6:00pm, costs \$10.00 per week and is 90% handicap. 4 bowlers to a team.



YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE AN EXPERIENCED BOWLER TO JOIN ONE OF THESE LEAGUES — THE EMPHASIS IS ON FUN!

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Terry Kaplan at JAPANTOWN BOWL 921-6200

ABAY AREA REPORTER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Gay WHO Gay WHAT Gay WHERE Gay WHEN Gay WHY Gay WHO Gay WHAT Gay WHERE Gay V

Gay's the (Smut) Word

Modern Times to Host Month of Readings To Benefit London Bookshop on Trial for Obscenity

by Chiori Santiago

Hands off that filthy literature! What? You say you're just perusing the pages of *Torch Song Trilogy* or learning a little about *Feminism in the '80s*? Don't do it in England—there are laws preventing such smutty behavior.

One such law—dating back to 1876—was responsible for the 1984 arrests of eight directors and one staff member of Gay's The Word Bookshop in London. Hundreds of titles, including the two above, were confiscated from the shop as “indecent and obscene” literature.

The Gay's The Word defendants are scheduled to face a full trial in London criminal courts later this year. In the meantime, a nationwide fundraising effort continues to raise \$75,000 for their legal expenses. Through the month of June, Modern Times Bookstore's Open Book literary series will introduce you to poetry, drama, and fiction by leading Bay Area lesbian and gay writers, and will raise money for the Gay's The Word legal campaign and *Feminary*, a San Francisco lesbian feminist magazine.

Producer Tede Matthews has put together a diverse selection of authors, some well known, others less so. Tonight at 7:30, Armistead Maupin will read from forthcoming chapters of *Significant Others*. Other events during the month include a book party for *Coming Along Fine* by William Hanson and James Muchmore on the 11th, a slide talk on gays in the Harlem Renaissance by Eric Garber on the 12th, another slide talk by Roberta Yusba documenting lesbian pulp novels of the '50s and

'60s on the 18th, and poetry readings by gay chicanos and chicanas on the 23rd.

“I wanted to make sure the series didn't revolve around white men,” Matthews said. “A lot of gay literature doesn't get much exposure, considering that this is such a gay city.”

Funds from the Open Book series will also support *Feminary*, a national quarterly journal of lesbian/feminist essays, poetry, and reviews which has suffered an infrequent pub-

lication schedule due to dearth of funds. The journal is published by a San Francisco-based editorial collective and sponsored by the San Francisco Women's Centers. Copies are available at Modern Times Bookstore.

Matthews usually coordinates an open reading series like this to celebrate Gay Pride Week. This year, he has even more reason to stage the event.

“Gay rights issues have taken a back burner to the AIDS



Armistead Maupin will read from *Significant Others* at Modern Times Bookstore as part of the Open Book series June 5
(Photo: Rink)

crisis,” he pointed out. “Yet as shown by what's happening to Gay's The Word, gay literature is still suffering from attack and censorship; gay journals are in trouble. It's important for us to be aware of what's happening in other countries, especially since our words are not getting in.”

The Gay's The Word arrests were based on England's Customs Consolidation Act of 1876 prohibiting the importation of “obscene” or “indecent” literature; the defendants are charged with conspiracy to “eave the prohibition” of such material, and thus face the possibility of two years imprisonment and unlimited fines.

The 800 books confiscated in the raid by customs officials were from the United States, many of them from Giovanni's Room bookstore in Philadelphia. Not only did the raid impose severe financial liability on Gay's The Word, it cut export revenue to Giovanni's Room—the largest exporter of gay-related publications to Britain—by one third, according to Matthews.

Who determines what literature is naughty and what isn't? According to a news briefing from Gay's The Word, “The sole test that may be applied by the courts is what the ordinary man in the street would think to be

in poor taste.” Giovanni's Room states that officers considered the mere presence of two words: “homosexuality” and “lesbian” to determine whether the literature was “pornographic.”

Giovanni's Room also points out that many of the titles are freely available elsewhere in England—books by Jean-Paul Sartre, Gore Vidal, and Oscar Wilde, for example. Also in the “obscene” category: *True Life Adventures* by local writer Judy Grahn and gay and lesbian sex therapy and counseling books.

If you're wondering what all the fuss is about—and what those conscientious British bobbies have saved the world from—it's worth wandering over to Modern Times during the next few weeks. In addition to a celebration of gay and lesbian culture, the Open Book series is an affirmation of the freedom of the press we've managed, so far, to retain.

A schedule of Open Book events may be obtained from Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., San Francisco 94110, telephone 282-9246. Admission to all events is \$3.50, sliding scale. Modern Times is also collecting canned goods and other non-perishables during June for the S.F. AIDS Foundation Food Bank.

'AIDS Show' on Film

Noted Bay Area filmmakers Robert Epstein and Peter Adair, who first collaborated on the feature documentary *Word Is Out*, have joined forces again on a one-hour television special examining the impact of the AIDS epidemic on the community hardest hit: gay men. Produced in association with KQED, *The AIDS Show: Artists Involved with Death and Survival*, has its television premiere during Gay Pride Week, Thursday, June 26, at 9:30 p.m. on Channel 9. (Repeated Monday, June 30, at 11 p.m. on Channel 9.)

The initial inspiration for the film was a stage play presented by Theatre Rhinoceros called,

The AIDS Show (an acronym for Artists Involved with Death and Survival). The show was mounted as a review, a series of comic, dramatic, and musical sketches, each of which dealt with AIDS.

Winner of the Academy Award in 1984 for his film, *The Times of Harvey Milk*, Robert Epstein's credits include assistant editing on such Bay Area productions as *The Right Stuff*, *Never Cry Wolf*, *Rosie the Riveter*, and numerous other documentaries.

Peter Adair has been an independent film/tape maker for 18 years, producing *Word Is Out* and directing the PBS special *Stopping History*.



Marc Heustis (l.) and Frank Lawrence edit *Coming of Age*.
(Photo: S. Warren)

'Coming of Age' Not Coming Up Short

by Steve Warren

So many filmmakers talk of the years of struggle to finance their projects it's refreshing to listen to Mark Heustis: “We expect to raise \$2,500 at this party that will give us the rest of what we need.”

The total budget for his 60-minute video, *Coming of Age*, was only \$13,000, thanks in part to donations of equipment from Adolf Gasser and the Mitchell Brothers(!), and videotape from AT&T. “This party” to raise completion funds is being held tonight at 8 at the Great American Music Hall. Marga Gomez hosts a bill that includes jazz-

salsa fusionists The Blazing Redheads; vocalist Esmerelda, who does a song in the video; and Doris Fish and Friends as your favorite Dictators’ (and Presidents’) Wives.

Coming of Age won’t be shown tonight. It will be “sneak previewed” June 27 during the Lesbian and Gay Video Festival and officially premiered Aug. 8 and 9 at the Roxie in conjunction with the opening of *Gay Games II*.

After seeing a rough cut last week I give the video my highest endorsement. It’s a portrait of Chuck Solomon, a person with

AIDS, climaxing with an outpouring of love at his 40th birthday party. It’s of special interest to the Bay Area because Chuck is an important part of our theater community, and there are many familiar faces among those honoring him.

Chuck’s positive attitude, an obvious inspiration to those who know him, will have the same effect on all who see *Coming of Age*, proving you don’t have to know him to love him. You’ll be proud to invest \$10 in this enterprise tonight, and you’ll get ten dollars worth of entertainment in the bargain.



EVEN IN BABYLON

Length and Width of Art

JOHN F. KARR

Why not face the traditional gift-giving month with an untraditional gift? Here's an item perfect for a June bride, a college grad, and—hell, why not—even Dad; don't forget that Father's Day is next week. Daddy doesn't really need another tie, does he? This gift isn't just for the man who has everything. It's perfect for the man who's had everyone.

Not that the onyx sculptures pictured in this week's column are being marketed as a sex toy. Heaven forbid, how tasteless that would be. The object's exclusive importer, The Aries Collection of Dallas, calls it a "new product" and a "beautiful sculpture," while dancing a pussy-footed two-step around actually naming their merchandise: "Individually created of high quality, colorful onyx, these beautiful sculptures vary from 6" in length and 4" in circumference to 10" in length and 5½" in circumference. Lengths were measured from the top to the bottom of the base. All are highly polished and smooth. Retail prices range from \$19.95 for the smaller items to \$24.95 for the large sizes. \$3 would be added for postage and handling.

"No two sculptures are identical in color or in size. Colors vary from very dark gray to an ivory white. All, however, do display colorful mineral filled veins that add a more realistic appearance to the carvings."

That's helpful information. We may not know what they are, but we can be assured that they look just like whatever they're supposed-to-be. Oh, wait. Here's the hard-core facts.

"These exquisite carvings"—no, that's not it—"can be used as decorative pieces, gag trophies, or even paper weights."

I'm not quite sure I want to use a trophy to make me gag, and I'd be worried about chipping my teeth, anyway. And as a paper weight it would create an adults-only office. The first suggestion, however, though a little euphemistic, does seem apt. I haven't seen such a decorative piece since my boyfriend knocked over the tie-dye tub on himself while dyeing his pants.

So let the Aries Collection call it an art object. Art, schmart. I know a good time when I see one. (The Aries Collection, PO Box 791812, Dallas, Texas 75379. Dealer Inquiries welcome.)

★ ★ ★

I also know a good time when I hear one, and such an one is the original film score to the hip hit film short, *Beauties Without A Cause*. The entire soundtrack—all 7½ minutes of it—has been released on a clear vinyl, 7-inch soundsheet. (That's a paper-thin record like you find in magazines.)

"New Wave, hell," I wrote of the music in my review of the movie. "Symon Michael and Michael Helland's music is Neo-St. Vitus Dance." I'm also glad to report it loses none of its "percolator brilliance" (I wrote that, too) when heard without the visual. This very limited edition is a guaranteed collector's item, and there's a few left for a buck plus postage from Col-

lapsed Lung Entertainment, 250 Page St., Suite 8, S.F. 94102. Creative DJs ought to be mixing this aural toot into dance tracks; I haven't had such musical fun



The indomitable Wendel

since Boy George asked me, "Would you like to swing on a star?"

★ ★ ★

Let us not dismiss the eye in this week's collection of sensuositites; here are two books for pleasure-perfect summer reading. The adventures of Howard Cruse's comic strip hero *Wendel* have been collected in a complete edition (Gay Presses of New York, \$9.95) that is a complete delight.

The gay world as rendered by Cruse takes in all our extremes, sometimes simultaneously. It's sassy and serious, flip and touching, even romantic. Richard Goldstein, reviewing *Wendel* in the *Village Voice*, summed Cruse up succinctly: "He renders the deep dark world of sodomy in the maltshop manner of Archie." The politics of the strip



The Aries Collection

are foremost, yet disguised by the melodramas of daily life and disarmed by the cleverly stylized drawings.

I love most those improbable situations—Wendel in bondage when the missionary zealots come to call, or answering a classified placed by his mother. Politically pointed are Wendel's

dialogues with his boss, his lover, and most hilariously with his lover's young son, who can be counted on for just the right precociously drop-dead utterance at the wrong time.

Wendel is not currently appearing in any publication, too

(Continued on page 25)

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TALES OF TESSI TURA

Opera In The Ozone

GEORGE HEYMONT

Once a person becomes a frequent flyer, he must adjust to a lifestyle that is topsy-turvy from the ways in which most of his friends spend their lives. Not only does eating out become a daily routine, any romantic notions he may once have harbored about hotel rooms soon evaporate into thin air. The excitement of racing down a runway with engines roaring for takeoff loses its intensely sexual thrill and, though he may derive great pleasure from journeying

to distant destinations, the business traveler soon begins to pay close attention to the evening news. Why? Because, by that point, any word of his home town—be it good or bad—comes as a welcome tonic. At the very least, the tube may offer him a glimpse of the city he loves the most.

Although I cringe when a New Yorker inquires how things are "out there in Frisco," and stifle a giggle when a friendly Texan compliments me on having "one



Count Ory (Carroll Freeman), Countess Adele (Erie Mills), and the page Isolier (Suzanne Menter) try to keep cool during Rossini's comic opera *Le Comte Ory*.

of them real California accents," I find my frequent flyer's homing instinct usually kicks into high gear after four or five days on the road. While cynics may call this homesickness, I know last summer in Sydney I was absolutely overjoyed to see former B.A.R. writer Dan Turner being interviewed on TV as part of an AIDS documentary which had been relayed to Australia via satellite. Several months ago, after spending a lazy afternoon on San Juan's Condado Beach, I found myself glued to the television set watching reports of the intense flooding at the Russian River.

While TV offers a peculiar dramatic immediacy, the print media exacts a decidedly more perverse pull on a frequent flyer's imagination. Several years ago, I burst into laughter in the middle of O'Hare Airport's busy concourses while reading a Chicago newspaper's lurid account of how a Folsom Street fire had left some leather queen's "Torture Dungeon in Charred Ruins." Recently, in the midst of a whistle-stop tour through six cities in six days, I wondered what damage that morning's earthquake might have exacted on my plants at home in San Francisco. Potent visions of Jeanette McDonald warbling some gibberish about "wand-ring no more" filled my mind until the pungent fumes of TWA's meal service rudely catapulted me back to reality.

SISTERS UNDER THE SKIN

Since airports don't encourage high drag, I must confess to being quite tickled to see Houston's answer to the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence romping back and forth across the stage of Jones Hall. The occasion was the Houston Grand Opera's first production of *Le Comte Ory*—a lusty farce in which the lecherous Count Ory and his men dress up as nuns in order to gain access to the cloistered convent containing the Countess Adele. Although Rossini's next-to-last opera was being presented in Jean-Pierre Ponnelle's delightful production, there were obvious reasons why this evening was not as successful as most of Ponnelle's other productions. While much of the score to *Le Comte Ory* is magnificently crafted and the libretto's humor is quite stageworthy, the opera itself lacks punch. Rossini's late opus—which contains five numbers lifted from *Il Viaggio a Reims*—does not offer singers the kind of sparkling solo arias one finds in either *La Cenerentola* or *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*.

Although *Le Comte Ory* struck me as somewhat lesser Rossini, stage director Grischa Asagaroff did a nice enough job

directing HGO's chorus of male nuns. Peter Strummer's Tutor, Bill Parcher's Raimbaud, and Susan Menter's well-sung Page Isolier, proved to be strong foils for Erie Mills' perky Countess Adele. Famed Zasu Pitts look-alike Dana Krueger mugged her way through the role of Ragonde with great comic panache.

HGO faced a most peculiar problem, however, on opening night when tenor Carroll Freeman—an unusually strong Rossini singer who was suffering from acute tracheitis—was forced to mark his way through much of the score. Luckily, Michael Cousins—who flew in from Nice to replace Freeman at the Sunday matinee—was able to come to HGO's rescue. Each man earned the audience's admiration for his willingness to perform under duress: Freeman suffering from vocal illness; Cousins suffering from extreme jet lag. Both of these artists are pros who, even under such trying conditions, always manage to deliver a good show.

TURKEY TIME

Alas, not even the use of such desperate directorial gimmicks as mobile massage tables and a California-style hot tub could save the San Francisco Opera Center's Showcase '86 production of *The Turk In Italy* from being a dismal failure. This clumsy Rossini work centers around a poet (nicely sung by Mark Delavan) who is desperately in need of a plot for his new opera. That one piece of information should be sufficient to tell you something's rotten in more places than just Denmark.

On opening night, the poet's desperation was matched by that of the stage director, Roy Lazarus, whose imagination kept running aground. What's more, the tonal quality of the production was severely hampered by the cacophony of extraneous noises that kept echoing throughout South of Market's Theatre Artaud. Such an unnecessary nuisance factor raises serious doubts about whether this acoustically flawed performance space can serve a worthwhile function as an alternate venue for the San Francisco Opera Center.

In any event, Kathryn Cowdrick's robust Zaida and Li-Chan Chen's scheming, though small-voiced Donna Fiorilla offered the strongest performances of the evening. Monte Pederson (Don Ceronio) was suffering from acute laryngitis on opening night and, although Andrew Meltzer did a fairly nice job of conducting Rossini's score, George Hogan's Pasha Selim and John David DeHaan's Don Narciso were hardly the stuff of which operatic dreams are made.

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BACK TO BATON

PHILIP CAMPBELL

Beethoven Bridge

The San Francisco Symphony chose Beethoven's richly inspired *Missa Solemnis* for its recent finale, but the triumphant performances also served as a potent advertisement for the eighth annual Beethoven Festival beginning Sunday at Herbst Theatre.

The glorious *Mass in D* has few peers in the liturgical canon. Bach's *Mass in B* can match it for depth of spiritual feeling, but even Mozart at his theatrical best can't compare with the sheer dramatic energy of the score. It's like swimming in a warm golden river of emotion and beauty.

A truly convincing rendition requires strong and committed interpreters, capable of breathing life and nuance into every page. No one doubts Herbert Blomstedt is equal to the task; he proved himself forever with

'The marvels of the *Mass in D* definitely got my appetite up for more Beethoven, and with the festival I plan a real pigout.'

his glowing accounts of all nine symphonies during last year's festival, but the *Mass* is above all a choral work, and it demands superb contributions from soloists and chorus alike. Vance George has shown his steady competence for several years now, but surpassing some challenging odds, he emerged as the true star of the evening. As chorus director he even managed to compensate somewhat for the dry acoustics of Davies Hall.

The final stylistic decisions rest with the music director, so Blomstedt must take the rap for placing the soloists at the rear of the orchestra, robbing them of immediacy and obliterating many usually stirring moments. The unearthly beauty of the soprano's "Sanctus" and the magnificent quartet which precedes it were lost, but in fairness, his

choice made excellent sense at other times. The solo voices emerging at the end of each chorus section's "Kyries" were most effective.

Gut-level involvement has characterized other conductors' approaches, most notably Georg Solti's, but Blomstedt seemed more bent on molding an overall effect than illuminating dramatic incidents. The responsibility for injecting warmth and humanity was returned to George and his vocalists. They responded with their best work all year. Literally chewing their consonants in the relentless thrust of the "Kyrie" and abandoning themselves ecstatically during the massive fugue of the "Gloria," they gave the kind of ensemble attack necessary to sustain the exhausting emotional toll of the music.

I noticed a few saggy passages as the evening wore on. Sopranos needed a bit more of what the Italians call "slancio"—an impetus or stronger cutting edge to their sound—and shrillness in the upper register was sometimes intrusive. The dark underpinning of the basses faced a degree of sabotage by the obstinate lack of resonance in the auditorium, but these were minor lapses in the face of the overriding sense of involvement by all concerned.

The mezzo soloist, Claudine Carlson, distinguished herself particularly with singing of rich expressiveness. Tenor Jon Garrison and soprano Susan Dunn suffered most from their placement away from the audience. Dunn's clear true voice seemed thin, and Garrison, in uncertain condition, sounded far too distant. Veteran Theo Adam, with years of Wagnerian experience, was least affected and made a fine moment of his "Agnus Dei."

Concert master Raymond Kobler was lucky to be in his usual position downstage for his solo bridging the "Sanctus" and "Benedictus." Never the possessor of a robust tone, he navigated the exquisite violin statement with a slightly anemic grace, missing some of the bite, but none of the sweetness.

vote with Cary Grant and, yes!, Virgil Thomson of all people) or his sex life (hardly promiscuous, he lived for 35 monogamous years with one man), Capote unclosets a surprising misogyny.

Although his aunt called him "Little Miss Mouse Fart," he grew up to reap publicity as few others. "If you're a celebrity," he says, "you're a celebrity." But he felt his public life didn't deter him from writing. Calmly assessing himself "a semantic Paganini," he fits his own definition of genius—"that which exceeds itself."

"That he did, time and again, in life and in art. Both scandalous and insightful, these *Conversations* are a joyful fix for any Capote collection.

THESE TOO

Aaron Shurin reads new work, Sunday, June 8, at the Walt Whitman. Check Calendar listings.

The fifth year of the Men Dancing program at Center-space, June 5-8.

J.F. Karr

Certainly not closeting information about his drug usage (pe-



Did the San Francisco Symphony play Beethoven as well during its inaugural season in 1911-1912? Shown here with Henry K. Hadley conducting.

This was a performance that totalled more than the sum of its parts. Each movement, with the exception of the "Credo" (which sounded like Mozart on steroids), made its necessary impact, never lingering into lethargy nor pumping false emotion into the profanity of the writing.

The orchestra played, as it always does for Blomstedt, very well indeed. Retiring orchestra

members Ned Meredith, trombonist for 22 years, and violinist David Schneider with a tears-inducing 50 years, were given solo bows that soon generated a standing ovation. This lovely *Missa Solemnis* was all about ensemble, and it was a genuine pleasure to stand and cheer two men who have devoted a lifetime to ensemble musicking.

I love all kinds of music, maybe even a little Country-Western

on occasion, but if I were on a desert island, it's Beethoven I'd want to hear. The marvels of the *Mass in D* definitely got my appetite up for more Beethoven, and with the festival I plan a real pig-out. The banquet will be served throughout the month of June and, since Herbert Blomstedt is an undisputed Beethovenian, I recommend attending at least some of it. Information can be obtained by calling 431-4500.

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WIDE SCREENING

Hands Around the World

STEVE WARREN

Three of the best pictures from this year's San Francisco International Film Festival have opened commercial runs. *A Great Wall* and *Letter to Brezhnev* do more to promote international understanding than Reagan will if he lives another hundred years.

VAGABOND

Agnes Varda's *Vagabond* explores the question of whether individual freedom is worth any price we have to pay for it. To tilt the scales toward the negative we're introduced to Mona (Sandrine Bonnard) lying dead in a ditch.

The flashbacks begin with Mona walking naked out of the sea as if it had given her birth. Pieces of her puzzle are provided by people who encountered her on the road, as they talk to each other or to the camera. Mona eats when she can, works as she has to, fucks when she wants to, and says "Thank you" only once—at a convent that's given her a meal.

Mona doesn't provide much information about herself and admits most of it is lies. "It's good to be alone," she says, but does she mean it? She doesn't seem to get attached to anyone, even the occasional (male) lovers she spends more than a night with.

The film is by nature episodic and goes off on a number of tangents, yet it's surprisingly cohesive. Several characters re-

cur and it's amazing how instantly recognizable they are, no matter how many we've met in the interim. Like a security guard randomly punching up cameras on a TV monitor, Varda will sometimes check in briefly with someone we haven't seen in a half hour or more. It's a little off the wall, but it's great cinema.

That sums up *Vagabond*, which is also notable for Bonnard's central performance. At 19 she can blow most older actresses off the screen. (Gateway)

* * *

The sexual events in *Vagabond* are numerous but not graphic. They range from incompletely passes to brutal rape to Mona using men as sex objects, but they never involve her with women. Because Agnes Varda had total control over the film and could introduce whatever characters she wanted, the exclusion of lesbians was clearly her decision.

Her reason is not what you'd guess: "[Mona] being so dirty, I don't think women would be interested in her." In the course of scouting, Varda mingled with real "road girls" and met some of the people they came in contact with, some of whom she drafted into playing characters not unlike themselves.

"I was surprised to find these girls (like Mona) had a sex life at all. So many men see a woman



Chinese Cutie—Liu (Wang Xiao) imitates Pavarotti, plays ping-pong, recites the Gettysburg Address, and works in a bathhouse in *A Great Wall*.

like that and think, 'All she needs is a man.' I found no indication that women felt that way toward them." She points to a tree doctor who picks Mona up hitchhiking as the only woman who takes a real interest in her, "and that turns out to be maternal in nature." Lesbianism "didn't come naturally to the story," she concludes.

Rape did come naturally, but Varda was careful not to exploit it. "I wanted to make it clear that rape could happen to a girl on the road, but I didn't want to show it," she says. "There are many films about rape and violence if you want to see it."

Varda is overly modest in discussing her oeuvre, which includes such films as *Cleo from 5 to 7*, *Le Bonheur*, and *One*

Sings, the Other Doesn't. "My position in the cinema is totally independent," she says, "which is why I haven't had a career so far. *Vagabond* is an accident. It has made a lot of money [in France]. Reaching a large general audience is a new experience for me."

She says she's not happy about the new conservative government in France—"I'm a socialist!"—but adds that the country is evenly divided between right and left so it doesn't matter which side is in power. With conservatives running the store, however, "The budget for culture will of course be less. They think culture is dangerous because it's always been slightly subversive."

While she likes to leave some interpretation open to the viewer, Varda offered her own feelings about *Vagabond* to the press covering the U.S. premiere at the San Francisco International Film Festival: "I don't think it's about freedom. It's about rebellion. Mona is a rebel without a cause. She has only reached the stage of saying no, which is the first step toward freedom."

Apparently correcting European misunderstandings about Mona, Varda added, "She is not a metaphor. She is not a symbol. She is one girl on the road."

Varda purposely made Mona difficult to like—wild, dirty, and hostile—to show the hypocrisy of the other characters: "Tolerance is something we don't have. We want poor people—if they are clean. We never go near enough to people we don't understand."

Vagabond may not put an end to that kind of separatism in the world, but you may be surprised at the way Mona grows on you despite her lack of redeeming characteristics.

The story, incidentally, is sheer fiction. A rumor to the contrary grew out of a misunderstanding in France. Varda described Mona's freezing to death as a "faut d'hiver"—something that happens in winter—but a reporter thought she said "faut divers"—news item.

Elaine (Aleksandra Pigg) and Teresa (Margi Clarke) are working-class Liverpudlians who meet two Russian sailors who are making a good will visit to England. Elaine and Peter (Peter Firth) fall deeply in love, but there seems little hope of continuing their relationship. In desperation she writes to the president of Russia—with results that are surprising but not the end of the lovers' troubles.

Besides emphasizing the importance of love over politics, Frank Clark's script contains some great potshots at ignorant Western attitudes toward the Soviet Union. It gets a bit preachy near the end when Elaine delivers what sounds like Goldie Hawn's *Wildcats* speech about how a "girl" can do anything she wants.

Without making too big a point of it, debuting director Chris Bernard, who has done a beautiful job overall, has a few same-sex couples on the dance floor of the basically straight disco where Elaine meets Peter. Bronski Beat's "Hit That Perfect Beat" is the background for this scene.

With excellent sound recording, the Liverpool accents are the most comprehensible since the Beatles'.

Letter to Brezhnev has my stamp of approval. (Cannery)

A GREAT WALL

As barriers fall between the U.S. and China we'll be seeing more and more co-productions, but we'll wait a long time for a more entertaining and thoroughly bicultural experience than Peter Wong's *A Great Wall*.

It takes a few minutes to sort out the many plot threads Wang has skillfully interwoven to show the cultural and generational differences between mainland Chinese and Chinese Americans. First we meet two Chinese boys, Liu and Yu, fans of Western opera and so close they might be lovers. They work in a men's bathhouse (straight—some butts and pubes are shown plus innocent physical contact such as massaging) where they earn \$1.50 a day, enough to buy two bottles of Coke.

Liu is courting Lili, whose family is the real focus of the story. The Chinese branch, the Chao, are being visited by the American branch, the Fangs. Lili's uncle Leo (Peter Wang) left China 30 years before. His Chinese-American wife and their teenage son speak no Chinese, while Lili and Liu are struggling to learn English to get into Pek-

(Continued on next page)

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THE NORMA! HEART!

by Larry Kramer

The gay rights movement collides with the AIDS epidemic in Larry Kramer's honest and compassionate play of personal and political crisis. Last year the play ran ten sold-out months at the New York Shakespeare Festival's Public Theatre.

"THE BLOOD THAT'S COURSING THROUGH THE NORMAL HEART IS BOILING HOT. THERE CAN BE LITTLE DOUBT THAT IT IS THE MOST OUTSPOKEN PLAY AROUND."

—Frank Rich, *The New York Times*

"NO ONE WHO CARES ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE HUMAN RACE CAN AFFORD TO MISS THE NORMAL HEART."

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'¿Que es mas macho?' Laurie Anderson asks in *Home of the Brave*, 'a lightbulb or a schoolbus?' She doesn't explain her answer—a lightbulb, of course—but the reason is obvious: Who ever heard of anyone taking a schoolbus up the ass?

Screening

(Continued from previous page)

ing University. Fang has quit his Silicon Valley job because the company's racist policies have denied him a deserved directorship.

The Chinese-Americans are a mystery to the Chaos' neighbors, who wonder if they're Japanese or Filipino. The Chaos have misconceptions too: "Almost everyone in America has VD. The streets are full of homosexuals." Apparently they've only heard about San Francisco!

Because this is a film about people, politics never enters into it. A climactic ping-pong match features some spectacular editing, and Wang is able to find humor in almost every aspect of life. Those of us who are unicellular on either side can't catch all the riches he has lavished on his script. Enough remains, however, for anyone open to exploring other cultures to find barriers breached by *A Great Wall*, a great movie. (Bridge)

JAKE SPEED' AIN'T JACK SHIT

Jake Speed is a boring adventurer who rolls off the paperback pages into the life of Karen Kopins, whose sister was kidnapped in Paris and sold to African white slavers.

Wayne Crawford (Speed) has Clint Eastwood's voice coming from a face that's a cross between Walter Matthau's and Gene Wilder's. He can't act. Dennis Christopher's sidekick character would work well in a better picture. John Hurt arrives too late to save the movie but plays the villain, "the slimiest sonofabitch to walk the earth," as though he at least knows he's in a comedy. Crawford and Kopins are just in over their heads.

There's little action that makes less sense, and the African setting allows racist humor at the expense of the "funny" natives. Basically, *Jake Speed* is like *Buckaroo Banzai* meets

Indiana Jones—and they both take a nap. (Royal, Seramonte)

O SUPERSTAR

Laurie Anderson on reincarnation: "This is my first life as a woman, which accounts for a lot of things."

Performance artist Laurie Anderson falls somewhere between high tech and high camp. Fans of her work won't miss her first film, *Home of the Brave*, and they won't be disappointed. The question is, how many converts will she win from among the rest of us?

Call me old-fashioned, say I'm not ready for the '80s, but I'm not sure a guitar was meant to be played with a knife, fork, and spatula, even if it does have a rubber neck.

While I may have felt I was on the wrong planet, I was never bored by *Home of the Brave*. It wasn't the painful experience I was dreading and sometimes it was kind of fun. I mean, how often do you get to see William S. Burroughs dance?

Maybe there's hope for me yet. (Ghirardelli)

RETURN OF SS

The success of Sylvester Stallone's movies has always been directly proportional to the amount of time he spends with his shirt off. *Cobra* may change all that, and I may move to Libya where it's safe.

Mariam Cobretti (Stallone) is the new Dirty Harry, working out of L.A. "He looks like a fugitive from the '50s," says his partner, Reni Santoni, "but he sure is great at catching psychos."

You want psychos? You got psychos. A whole cult of them trying to build a "new world" based on survival of the fittest. For some reason they're killing people at random to achieve this, and for some reason the police, after 16 murders (number 16 is reported on television before it happens—an editing glitch), haven't figured out that more than

a lone killer is involved.

The situation is set up so that any suggestion of less than termination with extreme prejudice—i.e., Cobra's way—is an unmanly, unAmerican case of wimping out. Assigned to protect eyewitness Brigitte Nielsen, Cobra unrealistically accepts policewoman Lee Garlington—the only female member of the cult—as a partner without checking her out.

Not much makes sense but it moves quickly to a climax in which Cobra faces 50 armed lunatics on motorcycles. No problem.

The problem is that Cobra is as psychotic as anyone else in the movie. He just happens to be on the right side of the law. The far right side.

Cobra has technical flaws, but action fans and fascists will love it. (Galaxy, Grand Lake, Serra, Geneva D-I)

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BAY AREA REPORTER

SPORTS & FITNESS

LEAGUE BOWL

IGBO '86 Las Vegas

To begin at the beginning, Paul of Overland Travel coordinated the flight itineraries for more than half of the 100 S.F. bowlers who participated in this biggest-ever gay bowling tournament. The benefits of his expertise were reflected in the adroit accumulation and dissemination of information between the air carrier and the passengers, which resulted in a flawless round-trip flight.

The co-directors of IGBO Las Vegas, Ron Sperry of the Las Vegas Gay Bowling League and Mickey Johnson of Funlovers Bowling League Anaheim, served Thursday evening for hotel and tournament registration. The same evening, the San Francisco contingent opened a hospitality room which offered an atmosphere conducive to congenial conversation, cocktails, and an impressive spread of hors d'oeuvres that included black caviar among numerous other rare taste treats.

The following morning at 9:30, John Hammett, IGBO president, convened the customary pre-tournament meeting of the delegates from 25 states and two Canadian provinces, representing 47 cities and

74 bowling leagues. The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. Some of the decisions reached during these five hours included the election of Ron Keel of New York as the vice president, Tom Hack having announced his intention not to seek the office for another term; and presentations by Washington, D.C. and San Francisco to bid for the 1988 IGBO location. Both packages were very attractive, but the Washington representatives sweetened their proposal considerably by guaranteeing an all-expenses-paid Hawaiian vacation for two to the best all-around bowler of the 1988 tournament. The 1988 IGBO Tournament will be held in our nation's capital. San Francisco will now shoot for 1989.

Shortly after the 1988 IGBO location had been selected, the host city for the mid-year Sept. 19-20, 1987 meeting went up for bid. Five cities responded, with Cincinnati taking the cake.

The meeting continued with each group of representatives from the five IGBO geographical regions contained within our continent electing a regional director. Randy Peterson was chosen to represent the Western Region, which includes Alaska, Hawaii, Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Nevada, Ari-



Bill Wood of the Gangway on the Thursday Community League was the second bowler to realize a 300 game this year. Congratulations!

who enjoy the opportunity of supporting one another on the lanes and off.

zona, and Utah. Randy's selection seems particularly appropriate since in the past he has demonstrated an unusual ability to reconcile local interests with national goals.

Also during the meeting, John Hammett suggested to the representative body that Tom Hack, founding president, and David Theiss, founding secretary/treasurer of IGBO, both be awarded Lifetime Associate memberships. The proposition was passed without a dissenting vote, and the awards were later presented to Tom and David at the post-tournament banquet.

Daily tournament bowling began at 8:30 a.m. and ended at 2:15 a.m. both Friday and Saturday. Sunday squads also began at 8:30 a.m., but finished at 4:30 p.m., one hour before the banquet commenced. 1,013 bowlers completed 9,127 games over the above-cited time spans. While there were many excellent achievements realized at this fine tournament, two of the more conspicuous achievements realized by S.F. bowlers were the sizeable sidepots won by Doug Litwin and Ron Squires.

Two other S.F. bowlers who obviously enjoyed their sojourn at Las Vegas immensely were hon-

JERRY R. DE YOUNG

eymoners Rick and Rene. What else could explain constant ecstasy without winning?

Finally, the precision planning that had become recognized as an impressive aspect of the Las Vegas IGBO tournament character transcended into the banquet portion of the program. The obviously considerable previous preparations directed toward the seating arrangements, entertainment, food, and presentations paid off with a smoothly evolving, quality program. The acknowledgements and awards presentations were brief and sincere.

One of the most enthusiastic reactions was in response to Sara Lewinstein's Gay Games II oration. The entire throng came screaming to their feet in support of this second international gathering of gay athletes.

The co-directors and committees who worked so hard and so long to give life to this complex Las Vegas IGBO '86 wonder are certainly to be commended for a job well done.

The S.F. standings will be published shortly, after they are received. •

SCOREBOARD

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES BOWLING

Team Standings and Personal Achievements

(The League Averages are unavailable)

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE (Week 28 of 28—as of 5/18/86)		
1. Sassy	42	14
2. Spikers	36	20
3. Deadwoods II	33	23
4. 300 and Won	33	23
5. Alley Cats	30	26
6. Not Again	29	27
7. Four In A Row	29	27
8. Strange Interlude	28	28
9. Vagabond	27	29
10. Rocky's Boys	26	30
11. High Rollers	26	30
12. Lucky Strikes	25	31
13. Split City Rollers	24	32
14. S.G.E.H. & Biff	21½	34½
15. Pin Pistols	19½	36½
16. Miss-Splits	19	37

High Scratch Game

Steve Szasz (Sassy) 241
Richard Harry (Vagabond) 240
Lew Cordaro (Rocky's Boys) 225

High Scratch Series

Tom Marquart (Sassy) 586
Lew Cordaro (Rocky's Boys) 570
Albert Ricard (Alley Cats) 564

TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 31 of 32—as of 5/20/86)

1. The "69" Club	44	16
2. Steering Committee	38	22
3. "Guys N Doll"	35½	24½
4. La Cage Ah Balls!	34½	25½
5. Housewives From Hell	34½	25½

High Scratch Series

6. Teddy Bears	34	26
7. Strangers In The Night	34	26
8. Tramps R Us	31	29
9. "Five Big Balls"	29	31
10. Number Won	29½	30½
11. Sorority Bitches	26½	33½
12. Bottoms Up	25	35
13. "Strikes 'N' Spares Fore"	23	37
14. The DP's	9½	46½
15. 5 Inner Pieces	7	17

THURSDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 32 of 32—as of 5/22/86)

1. Penguins	38	26
2. Twin Peak 9ers	36½	27½
3. Vagabond	34½	29½
4. Old Rick's	33½	30½
5. Hunks	33	31
6. Pendulum	29	35
7. Gangway	28	36
8. Formerly—The P.S.	23½	40½

High Scratch Game

Bill Wood (Gangway) 300
Bruce Gresham (Pendulum) 264
Bill Wood (Gangway) 244
Betty Dougal (Twin Peaks 9ers) 178

High Scratch Series

Bruce Bresham (Pendulum)	663
Dennis Hale (Pendulum)	617
Art White (Twin Peaks 9ers)	615
Betty Dougal (Twin Peaks 9ers)	465

Compiled by Jerry R. DeYoung

G.S.L. UPDATE

TOM VINDEED

Village Halts Kokpit Marcos Sweeps Pair

One explosive inning put an end to the Kokpit's undefeated string when the Village Weekenders won an exciting and hard-fought 8-3 game.

The Kokpit jumped off to an

early 3-0 lead after four innings, but the Village put together a string of eight consecutive men on base to score seven runs in

(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)

the inning and secure the win.

Would you believe Francis hit a triple? No. How about two triples? That's what my protege did when the Cafe San Marcos defeated its friendly rivals from the Pilsner Inn 7-6. Yes, Francis hit a triple with the bases loaded to pace the Cafe to victory. Against Amelia's he also hit a triple when the Cafe improved its record to a lofty 6-3 mark. Looks like Hector Romo's kids will finish above .500 for the first time ever.

Dan Carlson had to play for the Badlands, and believe it or not they managed to win a doubleheader. First they defeated Amelia's 22-2, and then had to struggle a bit but blanked Capt. Video 4-0.

Ginger's had two big innings and downed the Phone Booth 11-3 in a game dedicated to Gracie. I can hear her now, saying "Goddamn team can't hit the ball!" Rest, Gracie, there will be other days. We will miss you.

Trax blanked Casto Travel 7-0 when Casto came up a little short-handed, and the Pendulum, recovering from a trip to Seattle, thumped the Gangway. Now Bob, you have to admit that was pretty good.

The Eagles clawed their way to a 15-7 win over Bear Hollow, who gave a decent account of itself, and the Rawhide II squeaked by Hunks' Golden Girls 3-2 in a terrific game. Rawhide II scored the winning run in the bottom of the 7th on a miscue.

★ ★ ★

Now for those dreaded fundraisers. Tonight at Ginger's Too there will be an auction at 7:30 p.m. That's at 46 6th St. The Kokpit, along with the World Series Committee, will host bingo at Chez Mollet, 527 Bryant, at 7 p.m. on June 13, which happens to be a Friday. This Saturday is the trip to Candlestick Park, and there may be a few seats available. Buses will leave from the Village and Pilsner Inn around 11:30 a.m.

★ ★ ★

This week all games are at Lang Field, Turk and Gough, with a couple of interesting matchups taking place.

SCHEDULE

9:30 a.m.: Phone Booth vs. Amelia's and Casto Travel vs. Capt. Video
11 a.m.: Casto Travel vs. Phone Booth and Village vs. Rawhide
12:30 p.m.: Kokpit vs. Ginger's and Rawhide vs. Gangway
2 p.m.: Cafe San Marcos vs. Bear Hollow and Badlands vs. Eagles
3:30 p.m.: Trax vs. Hunks and Pilsner Inn vs. Pendulum

STANDINGS

Cable Car Division

Village	9-1
Cafe San Marcos	6-3
Rawhide II	5-3
Hunks	6-4
Pilsner Inn	5-4
Phone Booth	2-7
Amelia's	2-8
Bear Hollow	0-10

Barbary Coast Division

Pendulum	10-0
Kokpit	9-1
Badlands	7-3
Trax	7-3
Eagles	5-4
Ginger's	4-6
Casto Travel	3-6
Capt. Video	1-9
Gangway	0-10

•

GAY TENNIS FEDERATION

LES BALMAIN

New Gay Open Tennis Champ

The runner-up for the previous two years, Bill Nissley (Santa Monica), finally captured the Men's Open Championship by defeating three-time defending champion Arnie Barba (West Hollywood) in two straight sets by a score of 6-3, 6-4. This was the 6th Annual U.S. Gay Open National Tennis Tournament sponsored by the Gay Tennis Federation of San Francisco.

The three-day tournament played over the Memorial Day weekend, May 24, 25, and 26, was composed of three events: the Men's Open division with a draw of 64 entries, the Men's 40 years & Over division with a draw of 32 entries, and a first-time Women's Open division with a draw of eight entries.

With such a large draw (more than 100 entries), play was scheduled at two sites on Saturday. The first two rounds in the Men's Open were played at the University of California, Berkeley, where two seeded players were upset on the first day of play. John Pratley (San Francisco) knocked out Dan Stack

(San Diego), seeded #3, by a score of 6-4, 6-4, and Craig "Sheeba" Coleman (Los Angeles) defeated Bobby Docena (San Francisco), seeded #6, by a score of 6-1, 6-4. The first rounds of the Men's 40 & Over and the Women's Open were played at Golden Gate Park. Jim Frailey (San Diego) upset Jay Seguro (Los Angeles), seeded #5, by a score of 7-5, 6-1.

Round three and the quarter finals in all three events were played at City College of San Francisco on Sunday. The longest and most grueling match of the day between Frank Medrano (Los Angeles) and Fred Borchers (Goleta) lasted for 3½ hours, with Frank winning by a score of 6-4, 5-7, 7-5. Bursting forth on the gay tennis scene, a bright new talent named Kerry Mitchell (Milpitas) downed two of San Francisco's better players, John Pratley by a score of 6-3, 6-1, and David Lewis by a score of 6-1, 7-6(7-3).

Memorial Day, Monday, everyone trooped back to Golden Gate Park for the semifinals and

the finals. Two of the most exciting and cliff hanging matches were the semi-final matches between Rich Ryan (San Diego) and Arnie Barba (West Hollywood) and Kerry Mitchell and Bill Nissley, which were going on at the same time. Ryan lost the first set from Barba 6-4, but fought back gamely to win the second set 6-3. Then, the third set was tied at six games all and went to a 12 point tie-breaker. Rich was leading 6-4 and was serving for the match when he double faulted. Oh, what agony. Hanging by a thin thread, Arnie went on to win the next four points, giving him the tie-breaker 8-6 and the match.

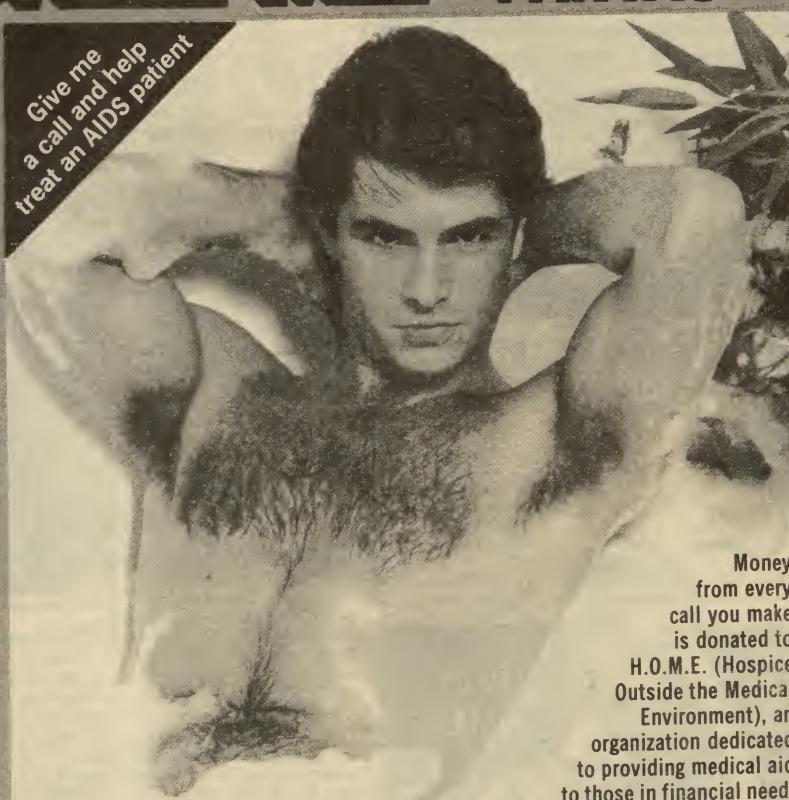
Bill Nissley had all he could handle with the rising new star, Kerry Mitchell. Bill lost the first set 6-7(7-2), but came storming back to win the second set 6-1. But Kerry regrouped and appeared to have the match in the palm of his racquet when he was leading the third set at 5-4 games, 40 to love, and serving the next point for the match. Kerry blasted a serve wide and deep to Bill's forehand, but somehow Bill returned an incredible passing shot down the line to take the point. The score was now 40-15 and still match point. Kerry then missed an easy volley into the net, score 40-30, and still serving for the match.

What pressure! Kerry blasted another fantastic serve, but Bill's return was better and now it was deuce. Bill won the next two points, the game, and the score was five games all. They went to six games all, which put them into a tie-breaker. Bill scrambled after every point to go on to win the tie-breaker 7-3 and the match.

In the Men's Open Division, Rich Ryan took 3rd place and Kerry Mitchell took 4th place by default. In the Men's Open Consolation, Scott Williford (San Diego) took 1st place, defeating Paul Papile (Los Angeles) 6-3, 6-4 for second place. In the Women's Open, Clare Potter (San Francisco) won 1st place with Carol Golden (La Jolla) taking second place, score 2-6, 6-4, 7-5. In the Women's Open Consolation, Virginia Brusco (Daly City) won 1st place, defeating Barbara Gilman (San Francisco) for 2nd place, score 4-6, 6-3, 7-5. In the Men's 40 years & Over Consolation, Duane Grabielson (Kansas City) won 1st place over John Teamer (San Francisco) 2nd place, score 6-4, 6-1, and Ron Scott (North Hollywood) won 3rd place over Norman List (San Francisco) for 4th place, score 6-3, 3-6, 6-1. In the Men's 40 years & Over Consolation, Robert Miller (San Francisco) won 1st place over John Burnett (Alameda) for 2nd place, score 7-5, 7-5. •

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Saturday—BUSY AND HOT! COME EARLY

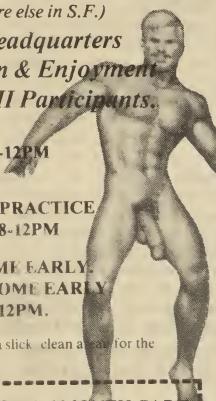
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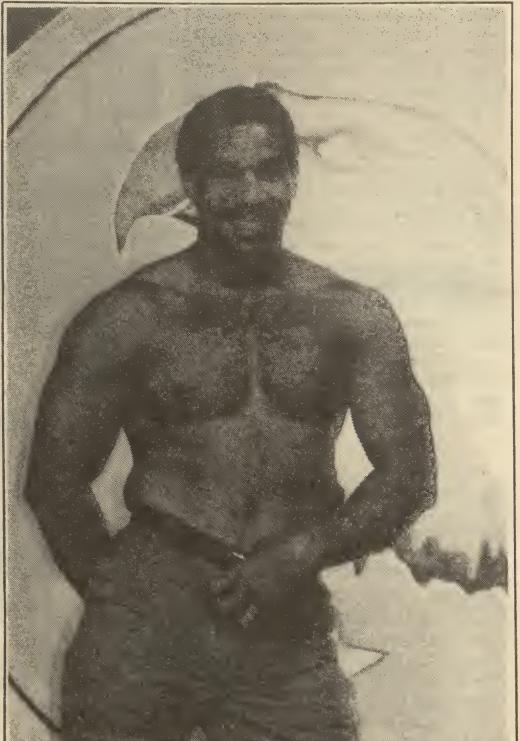
raised more than \$3,000 at the Scott Langley Memorial Auction, a fitting climax to one of the community's hard workers and a bonanza for the AIDS Food Bank.

While the Gay Fathers were doing a great job of being daddies to the community at the S.E. Eagle beer bust Sunday, several hundred "smart" ones decided to take cover from the cool and misty weather and got their money's worth at the High Tea dance and musical extravaganza at Pier 3 at Fort Mason. The sparse crowd stayed on and on as the afternoon and evening festivities got better with each passing hour.

me. I know everyone who attended High Tea agrees it was a high point this season to date.

★ ★ ★

South of Market lost three of its most beloved people in the course of a month. Word reached me Sunday that Michael Daley, that zany song and dance man in the not too distant past, passed over in Tucson April 4. His most outrageous acts were on the planks at Jim Ostlund's Castro Station. Who could ever forget the Expectant Mothers Sunday Morning parties? Or Michael's dynamic act with Steve (Stefanie) Miller? Details from his lover Steven



Leonard James won last week's Bare Chest contest
(Photo: R. Pruzan)

Needless to say, Gail Wilson pulled out all the stops, not to mention numerous other song and dance acts, including the dynamic Four Skins. City Swing blasted out with brass and pizazz and the exhibitions in waltzing, polka, tango, and cha-cha only added to the ambiance—all MC'd by our own ravishing Remy.

If you missed High Tea you missed one of the best dance parties this town has ever seen. Every star made an entrance in a fancy convertible, but Gail Wilson stole the entire show with her vocalizations and wrecked the place with her (live) imitation of Connie Francis.

It was grand all right; sorry you missed it. Why anyone would miss a Men Behind Bars party with Wayne Fleisher adding his prestigious talent to the production is completely beyond

LeGro are forthcoming.

Also, one of the hardest working dudes, Gary Noss, passed away just this past Saturday, May 31. Gary, a member of the California Motor Club, served as its treasurer; his work in the travel industry was impossible to match, and he headed the contingent to Int'l. Mr. Leather last year. Gary was a happy-go-lucky, always smiling kind of dude. I certainly will miss him.

And lastly, my pal Thom Morrison died May 23. He was one of the first members of the Rainbow M/C, with a distinct personality that endeared him to many. Thom was a quiet type, but his ideas were fresh and innovative and wisely motivated. This community is a hell of a lot poorer without these vibrant and creative people.

I grieve, yes, for these three
(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

and all the others we have lost. It gives you impetus to continue your generous contributions to every AIDS related community organization in existence. We all grieve for the loss of our beloved friends, lovers, and acquaintances. Your generosity, concern, and comfort for those left behind in these trying times is very much appreciated. Don't let up — don't ever let up.

* * *

You missed an exciting bike christening at the S.F. Eagle last Saturday afternoon. A dozen bikers decided to name their machines and the madness of champagne, beer, and water hoses ensued, and the whole thing was cap-

seats too, but still a lot of good \$65 ones left, so hurry and don't be left out. We're losing one of the best piano lounge acts this town has ever seen, too—they say Dennis Maureen, long the star of the Fickle Fox, will retire at the end of the month and go into AIDS fundraising. We will miss you tickling those ivories, Denny!

It's confirmed that Int'l. Mr. Leather Scott Tucker will definitely be here for the Gay Parade along with Peter Gallo of Los Angeles, the 1st runner-up; look for a series of cocktail parties (leather wear insisted upon) when they arrive. Jim Ed Thompson as Mr. Leather S.F. will, naturally, be the host for most of the festivities.

Lots of thanks to Jason Swinney, who donated that \$2,000

cordless microphone to the S.F. Eagle to use for their many fund raising events. That's showing a lot of community spirit—Lord knows you can't function at the junction without a decent sound system and microphones!

'Don't let up — don't ever let up.'

Hope to see you all at the Northern California Mr. Drummer contest tomorrow night. Until then and until next week boys and girls keep your legs crossed and remember: It takes taste to account for taste!

Minutes before my deadline, I learned that Steve Loignon, long a South of Market bartender and leather man, passed away in the early morning hours, Tuesday, June 3. He died peacefully with a smile on his face. Memorial services will be held June 7 at 12:30 p.m. at Most Holy Redeemer church on Diamond.

Marcus



Proof positive that Gail Wilson absolutely peed at the High Tea party
(Photo: R. Pruzan)

tured on video for future showings. It was amazing how the Eagle staff cleaned up the mess in time for the Gay Parade beer bust that started immediately after. Twelve new plaques adorn the Eagle's walls, and a wet and wild time was had by all. Check with the Eagle for the next wet party.

DISH, DISH DISH DOT

Have you called the San Francisco-based *Inches Magazine* lately, and especially after work hours? The recorded answering machine spouts: "This is Inches, Inc. Sorry, but we have our hands full just now!"

Don't tell anyone I told you, but the Dowager Empress Flame is practically finished with campaign strategy to run for Empress again! After all, following the trilogy (Empress de San Francisco and Empress de Vacaville), why not? From what I hear, the support for Flame is mounting with mucho enthusiasm!

And for Emperor? I'd be willing to bet those people backing Gary Kenyon for the title of Emperor will assure his win. And Empress Sable is the only royalty who's had a car named after her, or haven't you seen the TV commercials for Sable yet?

Just got a flash that the logo seats for *Cats* are completely sold out and most of the \$100



Leatherdom is not all black, as demonstrated by Harry Shattuck, Mr. Gold Coast of Chicago
(Photo: R. Pruzan)

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MARK FRIESE



Swingin' at High Tea with City Swing

Running around the city in search of adventure is probably the one thing one need not do, at least not in this town, especially when you are in the company of R. Johnson, P. Watson, and C. Duncan. The escapades I speak of have to do with where we all were joined together Sunday afternoon at Pier 3, at the Fort Mason Center, where a very well-planned Tea Dance, with fine entertainment, was presented. Alas and alack, to a not so overflowing, but nonetheless energetic crowd.

Some might say the location, by the bay, is not so readily accessible as far as transportation might go, and it might get a bit chilly in the evening air, but these places are available to our community when it seems the search for a location that is both affordable and pleasant has become one of the major obstacles people have to overcome when they mount any sort of production in this city where we all have become aware of the rent rates that seem to increase from function to function.

R.J., P.W., C.D., and myself enjoyed the afternoon's festivities—we make our own good times wherever we go—and they were only heightened by the fact that there was some fabulous entertainment and goings on that were missed by the people who did not attend, but were certainly enjoyed by the crowd in attendance.

A big thank you is in order to Men Behind Bars Productions and the other individuals and organizations that take on the heavily awesome responsibility of presenting entertainments and fundraisers for our community. It's a tough job, but someone's got to do it! I for one am glad there are those people who always go out to win!

Kimo's, on Polk Street, will most likely be packed with well-wishers this evening at 8 p.m. when Empress Sissy hosts a birthday party for Kimo. There will be great entertainment, as always, and Hawaiian Puu-Puus that can only be consumed while wearing fashionable tropical ensembles! Kimo's will also be the scene for the Tavern Guild meeting this coming Tuesday at 1 p.m. where the food will be by Mama Billy and the guest speakers will be District Attorney Arlo Smith and Pierre Le Bear. Smith will give the guild an update on the District Attorney's office and

its accessibility to our community, and Pierre will demonstrate the Heimlich Maneuver that has been responsible for countless numbers of lives being saved throughout the world. It does seem this meeting could be quite informative to all who attend.

Join the all-day celebration today when the Polk Gulch Saloon celebrates its 8th anniversary with a Wham Bam party with your hostess Flame and special guest stars in an entertainment extravaganza at 9 p.m. with Peppermint Patty and mucho surprises for all.

Why not get your tickets right now for one of the Friday or Saturday performances of Tom Ammiano's "Wrists" now playing at Theatre Rhino through June? Tickets are \$8 and you can reserve them by calling 861-5079. The show is good, the man is funny, and he has the awards and chutzpah to show it!

Do not, I repeat do not, forget to buy a raffle ticket at the Galleon for \$1 when you are there for a smart cocktail, dinner, or brunch, or to hear Bob or Momy at the piano bar. This is a raffle that gives you the great opportunity to win two \$100 seats for the Cable Car Awards benefit at the hit musical *Cats* which also includes dinner for two at the Galleon. The raffle will benefit the Godfather Service Fund, and the winning ticket will be drawn at the Galleon following this year's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade on the 29th. Buy one, or

several, for you and a friend!

For those of you in San Jose, and those of you who know the way, there will be a festive Fun in the Sun party presented by the Mayor's Council and the 641 Club at the 641 Club, of course, at 641 Stockton. There will be a \$3 beer bust starting at 2 p.m. and food will be available. The proceeds from this event will go towards sending the San Jose 8 Ball League to Gay Games II. Oops, I almost forgot to tell you that this party will be happening this Saturday.

For all of you who want an instant replay or were not at the live show, the premiere showing of the Closet Ball 1986 video will be shown this Sunday, June 8, at Sutter's Mill. There will be two showings, with the first at 3 p.m. and the second at 6 p.m. This year's Closet Ball Queen, David Graham, will be the hostess, and most likely he won't invite any male companions to his hideaway due to the festivities he will be attending to!

The buzz around the Polkstrasse, and other parts of the city, have been of recent changes taking place at the Stallion. It seems Randy Johnson is still on the planks there and has been joined by Dick Cook as the new manager and Bruce, formerly of the Mother Lode, as one of the new bartenders on the staff. If you want to know the rest of the story, you are going to have to be your own sleuth, because I know both the staffs, former and

(Continued on next page)



The Stud II Tricycle Race team got off to a late start and came in last 2 1/2 hours later
(Photo: Rink)

(Continued from previous page)

present, and consider them all to be good friends!

These are a few items coming up in a week or so, but I think most of you will want to mark these down on your busy schedules, lest they be forgot.

The 14th of this month will be a Day for Parkay at the Men's Room, with raffles, auctions, games, and of course those ever-popular celebrity guests from noon 'til 5 p.m., to raise some monies for Parkay, Don Lemke, who is not doing too well at this time. However, when he was in the best of health, he always gave his time and energy to help raise monies for the many other men who are fighting for their lives! I hope to see you there! I'm there for you anytime, Parkay, and God bless your good friend Larry Parsons for his love!

Tony Trevizo and the Godfather Service Fund will present the 3rd annual Father's Day Beer Bust and Auction at the S.F. Eagle Sunday, June 15, from 3 p.m. 'til ? The proceeds from this event will be used by the Godfather Service Fund as they continue to reach out to all the members of our community who need a Christmas stocking filled with items for their personal use, a Teddy Bear, and knowing that yet another group in the community will be there in love and support! The donation is \$6 and Tony Trevizo will oversee the festivities, and that alone assures you it will be a fun day knowing we all can do a little more to raise some money that will go 100% back to the ones we love who will have hope as long as we do!

Cowboy Bob will celebrate his 40th birthday this Saturday, anywhere he wants to, and I think if he is 40 then I have either to get his secret or his address, whichever comes first!

M. Friese



Danny Williams (r.) gives the play-by-play of the descent of the Billy de Frank Center's tricycle race team clown costume (Photo: Rink)

★ Bazaar Calendar ★

THURSDAY 6/5

California Eagles MC Cross Country Tour, June 6 through 8, check-in 8:30 a.m., SF Eagle Bingo, Holy Redeemer Rec. Hall (Diamond at 18th St.), 6:30-10 p.m., \$10 for 10 cards, benefit for Coming Home Hospice.

Kimo's Birthday Party, Kimo's, 8 p.m., buffet and show, Hawaiian theme.

FRIDAY 6/6

Mr. Northern California Drummer 1986 Contest, SF Eagle, 9 p.m., \$100 cash prize. Reno Coronation, June 6 through 8.

SATURDAY 6/7

Mr. Cowboy Randy B. Good

Birthday Party, Kimo's, 8 p.m., buffet and show.

SUNDAY 6/8

Employee Beer Bust, SF Eagle, 3-6 p.m., \$6. Beer Bust and Auction, The Village, 3-7 p.m., \$6, benefit Gay Games II Physique Team, tattoo booth, spaghetti feed (\$1.50), sponsored by Al Allen.

TUESDAY 6/10

Imperial Court Meeting, Febe's, 7:30 p.m., everyone welcome.

WEDNESDAY 6/11

Open Mike Comedy Night, Casa Loma, 10 p.m., Host/MC Danny Williams.

Compiled by Karl Stewart and Diedre

<

Tales of Another City

Or, The Real Dish About the International Mr. Leather Contest in Chicago, Circa 1986

by Duke J. Armstrong

More than 1,500 leathermen from across the country and around the world converged on Chicago for the International Mr. Leather (IML) contest over Memorial Day weekend. It was almost heaven. Scott Tucker, a free-lance writer from Philadelphia, took top honors in the contest, followed by two Westerners: Peter Gallo of Hollywood (looks 10, talks 3) and Jim Ed Thompson of San Francisco (cheers). But let us go back to the beginning.

For some two dozen hardy San Franciscans who bought the "package deal" through Vern Stewart, the weekend began with a Friday morning flight out of SFO on an overbooked Western Airlines 727. Seat assignments were a shambles, but it was nothing a couple of cocktails could not cure. A stopover in Salt Lake City permitted us to disengage from a few cheerless Mormons and to connect with eight eager IML-bound travelers from Seattle (including two contestants).

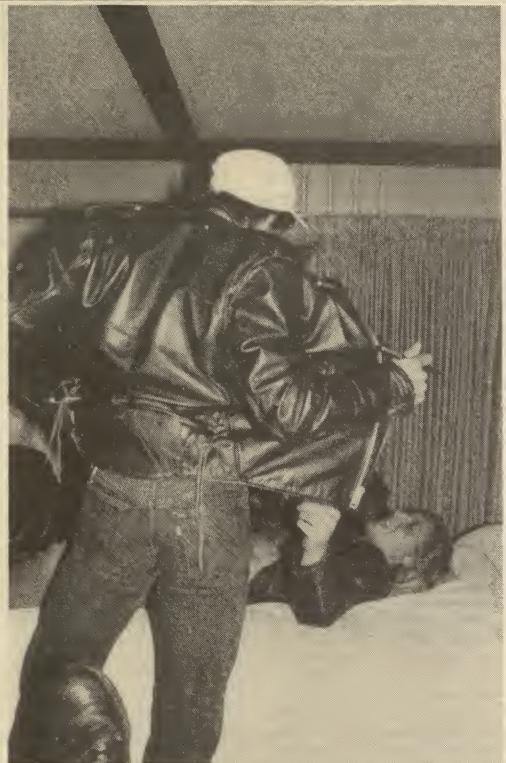
We arrived in downtown Chicago in good order to discover our weekend accommodations left something to be desired. Along with 250 other leathermen, we were booked in at the Lakeshore Hotel, a dilapidated, ten-story facility due for demolition in the next couple of months. The staff seemingly did

not have either the energy or the inclination to fully service the hotel. The condition of the rooms was therefore a matter of chance. One of our number found himself assigned to a room where an earlier occupant had vomited on the floor. Truly tasteless!

Undeterred by these "minor" inconveniences, our stalwart band set about showering (where possible), changing, and dispersing to the local leather watering holes for a little post-prandial amusement. Generally speaking, Chicago has three such establishments: the Gold Coast, the Redoubt, and Touche. The Gold Coast, located miles from anywhere, is decidedly not the "in" place to go (sorry, Marcus).

The Redoubt is a huge dance palace/restaurant complex with a dank basement containing a

bar, a leather shop, and a couple of unlit back rooms for close encounters of the third kind. The Redoubt was more or less the headquarters for the IML, and we consequently all had to trudge there on Friday evening to register and pick up our weekend packages for which we had each paid \$50. In contrast to prior years, the packages actually contained a few useful items. (Someone listened to my earlier criticism.) Each package consisted of a porn magazine, a contest poster, an ID button, a confusing schedule of events, assorted drink tickets, lubricant, condoms, an IML T-shirt, and a local gay bar and restaurant guide with maps—all stuffed in a large white plastic shopping bag. Why the packages were not distributed at the host hotel upon arrival is anyone's guess,



Chicago's Freddie Garcia at Herbella's party

(Photo: R. Pruzan)

but the results were ludicrous: men in full leather carting

around cumbersome white plastic bags all evening at the bars because they had no place to put them.

The third leather bar in town, Touche, is definitely the best, due solely to its owner, Chuck Rodecker, who cares about his customers and his community. He makes himself available to greet patrons and to keep on top of problems. Touche featured free continental breakfasts and afternoon barbecues throughout the weekend in addition to an hourly drawing for prizes on Friday night and regular drink specials all three days. This was in sharp contrast to the Redoubt which, although continually packed, never bothered to offer a drink discount all weekend.

Saturday came too early and everyone just slept through it to rest up for a long night of partying. Everyone, that is, except Sacramento's star contest entry, Hello Summer, who pumped up at the gym, sunned at the tanning salon, played footsie with the pedicurist, and shopped at Lord & Taylor's—all before noon.

Saturday evening Chuck Renslow (owner of IML) hosted an "exclusive" private gathering at the hotel for contestants, sponsors, judges, and press representatives only. In the interests of good PR and as a thank you to the contestants and their sponsors, one would expect the IML to spring for cocktails and some fancy hors d'oeuvres. But no, the only thing provided for a hundred-person reception was a couple of dozen beers. That, of course, was consumed in the first five minutes. The gathering was to run from 8 until midnight, but with nothing to eat or drink everyone grumbly disbursed after 9:15.

Fortunately, some classy San Franciscans came to the rescue. Contestants and others were all invited to a three-room suite taken by Herbella and gang (Jerry Valleire, Richard Roggiero, Steve Melandy, Pat Conway) where beer, wine, soft drinks, and slammers were served along with munchies. This revived everyone's spirits, and we

(Continued on page 40)

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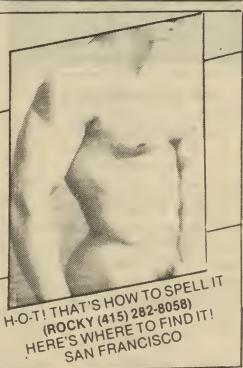
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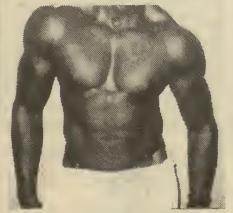
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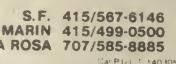
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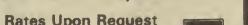
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Tales of Another City

(Continued from page 34)

all got to socialize and meet the contestants. My favorites were Steve Maidhoff, Washington State Mr. Leather (a transplanted San Franciscan) and Nick Varekakis of the S.F. Eagle. After that the bars were hopping until 5 a.m. and then (reportedly) the halls and stairwells of the hotel were thronged with salacious hordes.

The Redoubt had a Sunday brunch, but it ran late and the restaurant staff was none too friendly. The preferable choice was the Sunday afternoon beer bust and barbecue at Touche. The S.F. Eagle's manager, Terry Thompson, was there buying rounds of drinks and spreading good cheer.

Then came the contest itself at the Park West, which is like



Scott Tucker (r.), Intl. Mr. Leather '86, discusses matters of state with his predecessor, Patrick Toner (Photo: R. Pruzan)



The crowd at this year's IML contest.

(Photo: R. Pruzan)

the old Japan Center Theater but with a good sound system. It was packed to the rafters, but we had the best seats in the house: two tables in the front row, stage left.

The show ran poorly: it was not a snappy professional production as in the past. Last year's title holder, Patrick Toner, gave an inspiring speech, and the contestants were, as always splendid. But beyond that nothing else went right. A tech rehearsal would have been helpful; the spotlights were a problem; the MC (nescient about leather) could not read his notes; the same people were introduced twice; the entertainment was prosaic at best; the intermission video was out of place; the show ran over an hour late with long unexplained pauses. In short, it was not the sort of thing one expects for \$50. One could overlook that if it was a benefit for some good charity, but the only beneficiary here was the private purse of Chuck Renslow.

'We were proud of Jim Ed Thompson...'

Money was raised for charity, but it came as an extra draw from the pockets of the audience. The hat was passed for a Chicago AIDS center and more than \$2,000 was raised from a crowd of less than 1,500. A neophyte at our table suggested Chuck Renslow might match that, but most of us knew better.

It was almost 1:30 a.m. when we filed into the crisp Chicago night to make a final tour of the bars. And it was a weary band indeed which returned to San Francisco on a flight early the following afternoon. We were proud of Jim Ed Thompson as we were proud of Patrick Toner before that and Michael Merriott before that and Steven Roberts before that and Marty Kiker before that and David Kloss before that. Each in his own way represented the highest ideals of our little South of Market community. And that little community is the best anywhere, as the annual event in Chicago has shown over and over again.

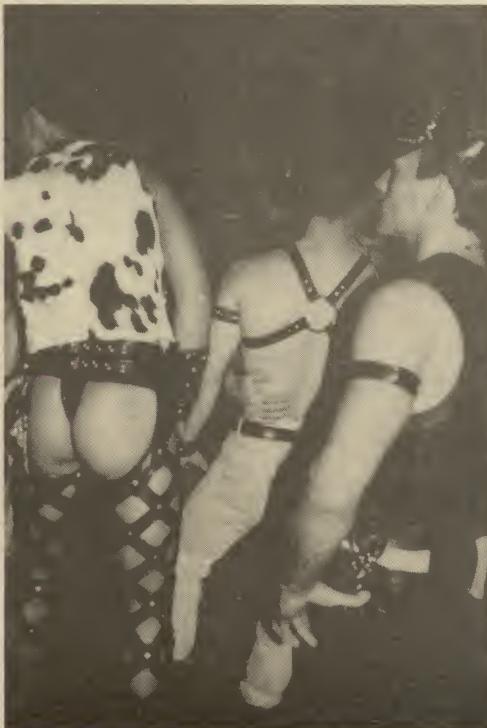
D. Armstrong



Even the contestants got stuck carrying the plastic bags
(Photo: J. Roberts)



Tina Turner did not entertain at the Chicago leather contest
(Photo: R. Pruzan)



Leather fashion prevailed at the Redoubt after the IML contest
(Photo: R. Pruzan)